The Saturday Evening Post.

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FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

TO ——.

Still love thy dear Mother; for, oh, 'tis a bliss
To behold an affection so righteous as this;
I know thou dost love her for all that is past,
And thou wilt love on still—aye, love on to the last.

Yes, I know that to thee, it is pleasure indeed,
To soothe the lone heart that in secret will bleed—
Yes, yes, o'er the lone and the desolate, thou
Delighted to look with a grief soothing brow.

I know it—for I have been blest with thy smile,
When the anguish of sorrow was raging the while.
When lonely and wretched, and friendless, I griev'd,
Thy kindness, my soul from its torture reliev'd.

Oh! ne'er from this heart shall thy name be effac'd,
For mid the memorials affection hath trac'd,
So deeply engrav'd, and with those I hold dear,
Remember'd till death freeze all memory here.

And thy Mother—oh, still love thy Mother as now,
For 'tis beautiful thus to see piety bow
O'er the couch where a mother is wasting away,
The remnant of feeble mortality's day.

Oh, more beautiful far, and more heavenly too,
Than all the gay shadows that fashion e'er knew,
Is the spirit that watches through sickness and grief,
And brings to a parent's fond bosom relief. C.

FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

DOMESTIC HAPPINESS.

Deep in a sweet sequester'd vale,
Remote from worldly care,
Lived honest Allen and Lenett—
They were a virtuous pair.

Their humble cot in rustic pride,
Display'd but scanty store,
Yet were their honest hearts content,
They did not covet more.

No sordid vice, no folly there,
Did once its sting disclose,
Or lurking envy e'er encroach,
To break their sweet repose.

Contentment dwelt in mild array,
Within their humble door,
Nor did they once regret that they
Were friendless and were poor.

And though stern sickness sometimes would
Their tender bosoms pain,
Yet never were their pious hearts,
Devoted to complain.

For still they thought, as christians would,
That each affliction given,
Was sent but to remind their hearts,
To be prepar'd for heaven.

And this had true religion taught
Their minds above the rest,
Whatever happen'd was but just,
And happen'd for the best.

Sweet Providence their faithful guide,
With kind protecting arm,
Had ever kept their hearts secure,
From every pending harm.

Thus many a pleasing year had flown,
Yet they no hardships knew,
And as their locks were silver'd o'er,
Affection stronger grew.

And often would they bless the hour,
Their [illegible] to prove,
That heaven had join'd their hearts to live,
In sweet united love.

Yes, sweet affection, virtue, peace,
In mildest beauty spread,
Their choicest gifts to yield content,
Beneath their humble shed.

And many a fervent prayer they breath'd,
To thank indulgent heaven,
For all the mercies it bestow'd,
And which to them was given.

Frail mortals we—how few like they—
Exempt from worldly pride,
How few who seem content with that
Which heaven doth provide. ELLEN.

FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

EXTEMPORE—TO ——.

Ah! why that frown of cold disdain,
Say, can'st thou dare to chide me,
Or by thy vaunting actions pain,
The heart that was denied thee.

Too vain I fear thy heart has prov'd,
It thought none could reject thee,
That all who saw thee surely lov'd,
When scarce they could respect thee.

But pray let dear experience say,
That woman's love's a treasure
That is not to be thrown away,
At every sailor's pleasure. ELLEN.

FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

ON THE DEATH OF MY BROTHER.

"He was a man take him for all in all,
I ne'er shall look upon his like again."

No more the sports of early years,
Can bring delight or dry my tears,
The only heart that could aright,
With mine responsive beat as light,
Is still and beats no more.

The eye that beam'd with joy serene,
Whenever joy in mine was seen,
Has lost its lustre, fled its light,
Is closed in perpetual night,
To sparkle now no more.

That tongue whose accents always sweet,
Said "Brother we again shall meet,"
Is silent now—not one lone sound,
Can e'er reverberate around—
It charms my ear no more.

That Brother, and the only one
That ever blest me, he is gone;
Who would his life, his all resign,
To succour or to ransom mine,
Will meet me here no more.

Cold lies the sod upon his breast,
And o'er him now the turf is growing,
For souls like his there is a rest,
Where bliss in purity is glowing. CAROLUM.

Gloucester County, N. J.

Selected for the Saturday Evening Post.

"The best opposition to wrong, and in favour of what is right, is a steady *Christian patience*, taking care never to commit or give up the principle of truth and right reason, as a compliment to error and violence."—Dr. Watson.

THE MORALIST.

There is something in sickness that breaks down the pride of manhood—that softens the heart, and brings it back to the feelings of infancy. Who that has suffered even an advanced life, in sickness and despondency; who that has pined on a weary bed in the neglect and loneliness of a foreign land—but has thought on the Mother "that looked on his childhood," that smoothed his pillow, and administered to his helplessness. Oh! there is an enduring tenderness in the love of a mother to a son, that transcends all other affections of the heart. It is neither to be chilled by selfishness, nor daunted by danger, nor weakened by worthlessness, nor stifled by ingratitude. She will sacrifice every comfort to his convenience; she will surrender every pleasure to his enjoyment; she will glory in his fame, and exult in his prosperity; and, if adversity overtake him, he will be dearer to her by misfortune; and if disgrace settle upon his name, she will still love and cherish him; and if all the world beside cast him off, she will be all the world to him.

How many indulgencies—luxuries—even conveniencies, could we dispense with, if we were only blessed with a cheerful temper. It is meat and drink and clothing. A man with it, is happier when clothed in rags, than the discontented Crœsus, who is arrayed in purple and fine linen.—It is money in bank to a man—for though he may have little money he does not want much. He makes the most of every thing he has. He is the true Economist, for he economises all the means of happiness.

Too much care turns the young man gray,
And too much care turneth the old man to clay.

The truth of the song is better than its metre.—A cheerful temper communicates itself to all around you. It drives away from your bosom the ill passions of envy, hatred, devouring ambition, pale faced avarice, and the "green eyed monster," jealousy.

Whether it depends upon temperament or habit or exertion, this is certain, that cheerfulness seldom agrees with idleness. A man must be employed—his mind must be occupied to a certain extent by some active pursuit—or he becomes dissatisfied, and he preys upon himself.

Cultivate then a cheerful temper. It is the friend of the virtues—the sworn enemy of vice.

It rests with yourself to obtain it. When possessed, it sheds light and peace and happiness all around it.

FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

TO THE PRINTERS.

I have long felt a desire to address you, to express my opinion on the character of your paper—and the important responsibility you have upon yourselves as the conductors of a public journal, which may or may not be the means of much advantage to many, and the young in particular, as your attention to propriety in choosing materials for "reproof and instruction," for rational amusement, for example for virtue, and religion, may give it a beneficial tendency.

They who have under their guidance so effective an engine for the improvement in well-doing, and for training the minds and correcting the errors of our youth, should reflect seriously on the nature and purity of those living streams which are to flow from its operation in such extensive and various directions, probably to deaden, if not exterminate, the poisonous weeds of vice, while they nourish and cherish the heavenly plants of truth and morality in the minds of many. These considerations should cause them to be at all times on their guard. To avoid carefully what may have the remotest appearance of an offence against innocence, decency or truth. To be assiduous in procuring that which may gratify, inform and benefit.

It is an evidence I think, of the correctness with which you have conducted your paper, that it has stood while others have fallen; you have been established now about, or a little better than two years, during which period no less than eight papers have started in this city, whether intended as in opposition, I am unable to say, but at any rate with the same opportunities and the same chance of success, and they have failed. You were all equally before the public—the public has seen and judged of your respective merits, and has awarded accordingly. They have unequivocally given to you a preference over the eight. There is in this expression of opinion, a meaning not to be mistaken, and let me add, a confidence not to be abused. The inference to be deduced from this almost exclusive patronage is, that the course you have pursued has been an approved one, and consequently the one which interest and duty points out as the fittest hereafter.

A prominent, and certainly one of the best features in your plan, is the absence of party politics, and religious contentions; these things may be, and very probably are proper enough in their places—in their places then let them be retained.

It is enough for you, that setting aside the bickerings of personal animosities, of local prejudices, and bigoted and often unprofitable ecclesiastical opinions, you open your columns to a view of things more liberal and extensive; that you take in a broad view of the universe, and behold all men as men—God as God every where, equally the father and friend of all—who keeps as watchful an eye over the untutored savage, the poor Siberian, the frozen Laplander and the scorched Ethiopian, as he does over those whose lots are cast in more congenial places. I like the language which inculcates benevolence—I like the maxim which teaches us this truism, that all men are brethren, that there should be no distinction whatever, except between those who strive to do good, and those who do evil. No distinctions but virtue and vice; between a true and holy love of God, and a disregard of his commands; between righteousness and unrighteousness.

But it is impossible for you to expect to get along smoothly—you cannot please all, and at all times, for an obvious reason—a diversity of minds, habits and desires, bringeth forth correspondent feelings and opinions, which eventuate in secret or open satisfaction or hostility, according as operated on. Now no man can expect to be pleased in all things, and all others to be pleased in like manner with the same also; yet such would seem to be the expectation of many. Some are offended with a trifling tale, or song or jest; with notices of theatrical amusements, races, assemblies and the like—but do they consider that the minds which are pleased with these things, and they are many, in searching for these, may be led unawares, to a perusal of something more serious and important—some moral reflection, or affecting tale, calculated to convey with effect, some lesson of charity, piety and virtue, that they may be thereby benefited, and made wiser and better; when without these inducements they might have turned their attention to some more trifling employment, and thereby have lost the good which an expectation of mere "fun" may have led them to; for many would pass by a paper, unless it was thought to contain something pleasing, and those too who never think of reading any thing, or of looking for amusement beyond the giddy round of pleasure.

Note.—We are not desirous of boasting, or of being considered capable of making ungenerous reflections on the misfortunes of others, nor shall we it is presumed be accused of either, if we observe, in confirmation of the remark of our correspondent, that while several cotemporary papers have failed through want of encouragement, we have continued to receive a regular increase of patronage, and at this moment our paper has nearly five times the number of subscribers it had at its commencement in 1821.

[*Eds. Sat Eve. Post.*

FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

"Jack's as good a man as Mr. Longhorne."

Old Jeremy Longhorne was a wealthy gentleman who resided on the heights of the Neshamony, in the county of Bucks.—He possessed a large farm, and kept a number of negroes. He was frequently a representative for the county in the old provincial assembly, and was much employed in services of a public and political nature. He died a great many years ago, and his virtues were enumerated by the Bucks county Bard, *Satterthwaite*, in a poetical eulogium which was published in print about 1740. It is said that once when the old gentleman returned from an excursion on business, pretty late in the evening, he called to his black man Jack, and ordered him to put up his horse: perceiving the fellow was in a sullen humour, and muttered to himself as he went, Longhorne had the curiosity to follow him, unperceived, that he might learn the purport of his soliloquy, with which, it seems, he was a little diverted. "Massa ride about de country—come home at night—all dark—call Jack—Jack come put away my horse—Jack tired and sleepy—poor Jack put away Massa's horse, all in de cold—Jack no like it—for tinks, Jack's as good a man as Mr. Longhorne."

Some time ago, I enquired of a friend what was the reason we had so few men amongst us now-a-days, that would for eminence compare with the dignified character of the last and preceding generations. His reply was, that now, Jack had, in his own estimation, become as good a man as Mr. Longhorne. L.

FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

Beloved of Heaven, the smiling Muse shall shed,
Her moonlight halo round thy honoured head.
Campbell.

Whether we consider America as rising into national importance from the glory of her achievements, or the splendour of her emancipation, involves a question of no importance to the actual existence of the fact. If we look upon her as she now stands, with no companion in her form of government, we wonder at the temerity of that policy which could point her to such an untrodden path; and if we regard her in the felicity of her existing system of Republicanism, we admire the genius that planned, we bless the perseverance that executed, and adore the firmness of those stupendous intellects, who, among the confusion of a universal revolution, fixed her, a Republic, on a basis too immutable, too unchangeable to be shaken by the convulsions that have crumbled thrones and empires. So glorious an example should be the signal for the imitation of the world. So splendid an accomplishment should be the landmark for the guidance of the universe. It should raise the dormant feelings of the inhabitants to our north, and it should stimulate our brethren to the south to wrestle for a moment with the horrors of illegitimate persecution, till the period should arrive, when, casting behind them the fetters that have trammelled every energy of the soul, they rise a glorious Republic, on the ruins of a loathsome monarchy.

In contemplating the characters which the American revolution brought into the field of action, it requires no prejudice to exalt their virtues and extol their work; neither is it necessary for the existence of any unnatural feeling, to palliate those minor failings, of which, as soldiers and as statesmen, they were guilty. Any private anecdote, any little circumstance relating to these great men should be handed down from one generation to another, as the legacy of worth and bravery, to their anxious and admiring children. But let those things which expose the weaknesses of our patriotic fathers (for who, with all his generous prejudices, will deny that some belonged to them,) be buried in the impatient slumbers of eternity. Who is there that would sully such a noble theme, by the relation of one individual tale derogatory to the dazzling splendours of their well earned fame. Hallowed be the memories of such noble characters; sacred be the turf that rests upon them; and while there lives one generous American, let him look upon their tombs as the mementos of all that was great and good.

"Here shall the morn her earliest tears bestow,
Here the first roses of the year shall blow."

Whether we are to consider under the general head of *classic ground*, every spot which may have been the scene of action, is a question which the reader must decide for himself; for, as he decides, so he must consider the ground a few rods below the Swedes' Church. At that spot, there was, during the American revolution, an insignificant redoubt of some half a dozen guns, but with a garrison sufficiently courageous to point them against two British frigates, on their way to the city. The resistance, however, which this formidable battery opposed to the passage of the English, was not of so terrible a nature as to induce them to return, but after having exchanged a few shots, more by way of salute than retaliation, they proceeded on to the city. The writer once heard an aged female say, that when a girl, she and her companions in playing in and about the fort in question, amused themselves by opening and examining the ammunition boxes attached to every gun, and which being unemployed and empty, were open to their inspection, they were horror struck by finding in one, the body of an unfortunate individual who had committed suicide.

Within the burial ground of the Swedes Church, repose the remains of the celebrated American Ornithologist, Alexander Wilson: not as he requested when dying, overshadowed by willows, and birds singing o'er his grave; but without a single leaf to shade, or a single bough on which his favorite songster might warble o'er him.

December 7, 1823.

TALES OF THE DEEP.

FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

THE STORM—concluded.

I should, according to promise, have told you before, what were the immediate causes of Maria's grief. But the little incidents that force themselves upon my attention are so numerous, and to me so interesting, and awaken such recollections, that I cannot but indulge them, though it be at the expence of even appearing tedious. But you cannot be expected to feel that deep interest which I feel, and which I love to indulge, although it creates in my mind many melancholy sensations. You never listened to the clear, musical tones of her sweet voice, or beheld the gentle and eloquent expression of her fine countenance. She often sang, and with much tenderness and feeling. I remember well the last time we heard her; as usual we were seated on the deck, when the sun had just descended to its golden rest beyond the waters, and had left rich and magnificent piles of immense clouds above the spot where it had set, and which were gilded around their variegated edges with romantic brightness, and the smooth sea as far as the eye could trace it, was covered with equal brilliancy, it became softened by degrees, and finally the clouds, the waters, and the heavens all became suffused in one deep mellow blush. It was then that we heard for the last time the melody of her sweet song—the evening was mild and calm, our white sails hung from the yards still and motionless, as if waiting to hear her accustomed voice, as if listening to catch the soft strain, or occasionally moving in undulating folds, gently fanning, as if to waft it away—whither? to her home? to the skies. She sang, as we all hung in admiration on the melody, these beautiful lines, beginning

"As down in the sunless retreats of the ocean,
Sweet flowers are springing no mortals can see,
So deep in my heart the still prayer of devotion,
Unheard by the world rises silent to thee,
My God!—pure warm, fond, silent to thee.
Unheard by the world rises silent to thee," &c.

* * * * *

The third day after we left land a circumstance occurred which threw a gloom over every thing, and was feared, and with too much truth, to be the forerunner of affliction. One of the seamen was taken sick, and it immediately became evident, that the scourge of tropical climes, the yellow fever, had commenced its ravages on board, and threatened all with destruction. What was to be done? was the fearful enquiry of all. Confined within such narrow bounds flight was impossible. The next day, a second and a third were seized with the fatal symptoms, and the first was becoming delirious and at night expired; it now required all the attention of the well to assist the sick—every precaution was taken, every exertion was made that ingenuity could suggest; yet all seemed to be unavailing, and we waited in awful suspense the termination of our fate. Yet amid the terrors of our situation the dead were not forgotten; nor did we neglect to pay the last duties with becoming decency. That evening on which it expired, the first corpse was committed to the deep—it had been wrapped up and properly secured in a sheet, with a few pieces of lead sufficient to make it sink—it was then laid upon one of the hatches, which had been taken off for the purpose, and we all gathered around it, while our captain read with a voice expressive of that pious feeling and regret which the scene inspired, the funeral service for the dead; at the conclusion of which, the body was gently slid off and fell with a mournful plash into its liquid grave, which closed over, but hid it not, and we beheld it sinking to an almost inconceivable distance down, down, as if it would never disappear; for the water was so clear and transparent, it seemed loth to hide our fellow mortal in its watery bosom;—we finally lost it, but thought ceased not to follow to its last resting place, to accompany it down in the distant immeasurable depth,

"Where months, years and ages shall circle away,
And still the vast waters above it shall roll."

The pestilence raged in its fury and swept, Oh, need I tell you, it swept away among the rest, our two passengers. Maria survived, though she called upon death—and when clinging frantic to her mother's corpse, Oh awake, awake, she cried, I have none to comfort me but thee; Oh my mother, I cannot let thee go—Henry! too, oh my brother thou art gone, and now my mother, my mother!—But why should I pain you with a recital of her agonized sufferings, I cannot recollect them without anguish—suffice it say, she was torn from her embrace with despair marked upon her countenance. She at first could scarcely be constrained from throwing herself into the sea, to look as she said for her mother. She afterwards became more calm, but reason had fled, and she wandered about the vessel unconscious of every thing around her, till the fatal night of the storm, which ended her sufferings.

"On beds of green sea-flowers thy frame shall be laid,
Around thy white bones the red coral shall grow,
Of thy fair yellow locks threads of amber be made,
And every part suit to thy mansion below."

FROM DWIGHT'S TRAVELS.

CHARITY REWARDED.

Not many years after the County of Litchfield began to be settled by the English, a strange Indian came one day into an inn, in the town of Litchfield, in the dusk of the evening—and requested the hostess to furnish him with some drink and a supper. At the same time, he observed, that he could pay for neither, as he had no success in hunting—but promised payment as soon as he should meet with better fortune. The hostess refused him both the drink and supper—called him a lazy, drunken, good-for-nothing fellow—and told him that she did not work so hard herself to throw away her earnings upon such creatures as he was. A man who sat by, and observed that the Indian, then turning about to leave so inhospitable a place, shewed by his countenance, that he was suffering severely from hunger and weariness directed the hostess to supply him with what he wished, and engaged to pay the bill himself. She did so. When the Indian had finished his supper, he returned to his benefactor, thanked him, and assured him that he should remember his kindness, and whenever he was able would faithfully recompense it. For the present, he observed, he could only reward him with a story, which if the hostess would give him leave he wished to tell. The hostess whose complacency had been recalled by the prospect of payment, consented. The Indian, addressing himself to his benefactor, said "I suppose you read the Bible." The man assented. "Well," said the Indian, "the bible says God made the world—and then he took him, and looked on him, and say, 'It's very good.' Then He made dry land and water, and sun and moon, and grass and trees, and took him and looked on him, and said, 'It's all very good.' Then he made beast and birds, and fishes, and took him, and looked on him, and say, 'It's all very good.' Then he made man and took him and looked on him, and say 'It's all very good.'—Then He made woman, and took him and looked on him but he no dare say one such word." The Indian having told his story withdrew.—Some years after, the man who had befriended him had occasion to go some distance into the wilderness between Litchfield and Albany, then a frontier settlement, where he was taken prisoner by an Indian scout and carried to Canada.—When he arrived at the principal settlement of the tribe, on the southern borders of the St. Lawrence, it was proposed by some of the captors that he should be put to death. During the consultation, an old Indian woman demanded, that he should be given up to her, that she might adopt him in the place of a son whom she had lost in the war. He was accordingly given to her, and lived through the succeeding winter in her family, experiencing the customary effects of savage hospitality. The following summer, while he was at work in the forest alone, an unknown Indian came up to him and asked to meet him at a place which he pointed out, upon a given day. The prisoner, agreed to the proposal, but not without some apprehensions that mischief was intended him. During the interval these apprehensions increased to such a degree, as to dissuade him effectually from fulfilling his engagement. Soon after the Indian found him at work again, and very gravely reproved him for not performing his promise. The Indian told him that he should be satisfied, if he would meet at the same place on a future day, which he named.—The man promised to meet him and fulfilled his promise. When he arrived at the spot, he found the Indian provided with two muskets, ammunition for them, and two knapsacks. The Indian ordered him to take one of each, and follow him. The direction of their march was to the South.—The man followed, without the least knowledge of what he was going to do, or whither he was going—but concluded that if the Indian intended him harm, he would have dispatched him at the beginning, and that at the worst he was as safe where he now was as he could be in any other place.—Within a short time, therefore, his fears subsided, although the Indian observed a profound and mysterious silence concerning the object of the expedition. In the day time they shot such game as came in their way—and at night kindled a fire, by which they slept. After a tedious journey of many days they came one morning to the top of an eminence presenting a prospect of a cultivated country, in which was a number of houses. The Indian asked his companion whether he knew the ground. He replied eagerly that it was Litchfield. His guide, then after reminding him, that he had so many years before relieved the wants of a famished Indian, at an inn in that town, subjoined, "I am that Indian—now I pay you—go home." Having said this, he bade him adieu—and the man joyfully returned to his own house.

The following anecdote is extracted from the 2d edition of 'a description of Brunswick, Maine,' lately published. It is a good story.

Among the first settlers of Brunswick, Me. was Daniel Malcolm, a man of undaunted courage, and an inveterate enemy of the Indians, who gave him the name of *Sungurnumby*, i. e *very strong man*.—Early in the spring, he ventured alone into the forest for the purpose of splitting rails from the spruce, not apprehensive of the return of the Indians so early in the season. While engaged at his work, and having opened a log with small wedges about half its length, he was surprised by Indians, who crept up and secured his musket, standing by his side. 'Sungurnumby,' said the chief, 'now me got you; long me want you: you long time speak Indian, long time worry him; me have got you now; look up stream to Canada.'—'Well,' said Malcolm, with true sang froid, 'you have me, but just help me open this log before I go!' They all five in number, agreed. Malcolm prepared a large wooden wedge, carefully drove it, took out his small wedges and told the Indians to put in their fingers to the partially clefted wood, and help pull it open; they did; he then suddenly struck out his blunt wedge and the elastic wood instantly closed fast on their fingers, and he secured them all.

A Jolly Sailor.—A jolly Sailor, indeed!—if he is jolly, it is when he is on shore, and because he is not at sea. And so we see him on sign-posts; but if we judge him by appearance, on his own element, his spirits are generally below the common standard, and nothing seems to vivify him but *"ready about," "helm's a-lee" "fore sheet," "fore-top bowline" "haul main top sail,"* &c. &c. A carpenter or a ploughman beguiles his labors with a song, but, "from the cheerful ways of men cut off," the sailor's occupation has more of the stillness of death; his carelessness is vacuity, but unlike Cymon, he does not go whistling for want of thought. Indeed, his voice is seldom heard but in "Aye! Aye!" or *"O'heave yo! heave yo!"* as heavy as the anchor he weighs. And what cause has he for joy?—he is either on the tottering deck, or sunk in a noisome scuttle; eats himself into a scurvy with salt meats, and drinks dirty water; rests only from great fatigue, or from the listlessness of doing nothing; doses in the day, and watches in the night; and at the time when all the world runs to shelter, he is then most exposed. He has less self direction than a man of any of the other civil classes of society, his bondage differing in nothing from the soldier's, but in the privilege of changing his master; for one he must always have.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1823.

This day at [illegible] o'clock the members assembled in the Capitol at Harrisburg. The returns of the different counties were read by the Clerk of the last house, Mr. Shunk, from which it appeared that the following members were elected; of whom 93 answered to their names. [Those marked with a dagger † absent.]

Venango and Crawford—Samuel Hays †.

Erie and Warren—Thomas H. Sill.

Mercer—John Leech.

Beaver—Samuel Lawrence.

Allegheny and Butler—James S. Stevenson, James Patterson †. John Brown, Moses Sullivan.

Washington—Joseph Lawrence, Joseph Ritner James Keys, Jonathan Knight.

Greene—Samuel Black.

Fayette—James Todd Henry W. Beeson, David Cummings.

Perry—Jacob Huggins.

Adams J. Cassatt, I. Wierman.

Philadelphia county—Jacob Holgate Jacob Shearer, G. N. Baker J. A. Mahany, J. B. Norbury, J. B. Sutherland, Robert O'Neill.

Philadelphia City—Wm. Lehman, J. Keating, jr. John M. Reed, Henry J. Williams, Charles Graeff, Henry Wikoff.

Bedford—A. Mann A Thompson †.

Huntingdon—H. Shippen, F. Cassady.

Dauphin—Wm. Cochran, V. Hummel.

Montgomery—J. B. Sterigere, Michael Cope, Robert E. Hobert, Jonathan Roberts.

Westmoreland—John Markle, John M. Wise, James Clark.

Franklin—F. Smith, W. Maclay, Robert Smith.

Lancaster—John Reynolds, Samuel Grosh, J. Kirk, John Forry, Jacob Bachman, John Hoss.

Berks—W. Audenried, Henry Boyer, James Everhart, Daniel Hottenstein, Wm. Adams †.

Indiana and Jefferson—John Taylor † James Rankin.

Lebanon—George Selzer †, Gotlieb Orth.

Delaware—Abner Lewis.

Northampton, Pike and Wayne—William G Scott, C. J. Hutter and N. Eldred

Mifflin—Thomas Stinson, Robert Alexander

Centre and Clearfield—John Mitchell, Martin Hoover.

Bucks—Solomon M'Nair, William Purdy, John B. Calvin, J. John Moore.

Chester—Elijah Lewis, Joshua Hunt, David Potts, jr. John Chandler.

York—William Diven, Samuel Jordan, John Gardner, Christian Hetrich.

Cumberland—Abraham S. M'Kinney, Martin Reninger

Lehigh—George S. Eisenhart, Samuel Myer.

Northumberland Thomas Painter.

Union James Dale, Simon Snyder.

Columbia—William M'Bride, Alexander Colly.

Luzerne & Susquehanna—Conelius Cortright, Jabez Hyde, jr.† Jacob Drumheller.

Bradford—Lemuel Streator.

Somerset and Cambria—Alexander Ogle, Peter Livergood.

Lycoming, Potter, M'Kean and Tioga Andrew Ferguson, jr., John Ryon

The house then, on motion of Mr. Ogle, proceeded to the choice of a Speaker, for which station,

Joseph Lawrence had	48 votes.
William Lehman	19
Robert Smith	16
Jacob Holgate	7
John Reynolds	2
Jacob Cassat	1

Joseph Lawrence of Washington county was, therefore, elected Speaker; and with the members present, took and subscribed the requisite qualifications.

On motion of Mr Wise, it was

Resolved That each member, the clerk &c. be furnished, during the session, with two daily newspapers, or as many weekly papers as shall be equal to two daily papers

On motion of Mr. Norbury,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to wait upon the Senate and inform them that the House is organized and ready to proceed to business. Messrs. Norbury and Hutter were appointed the committee.

On motion of Mr R. Smith 10 o'clock A. M. was appointed the hour of meeting.

THURSDAY, December 4.

At 12 o'clock Governor Heister sent in the following

MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

In addressing you, fellow citizens, on the present occasion, I derive peculiar satisfaction from the opportunity it affords of congratulating you on the numerous blessings, with which we continue to be so highly favored, by a beneficent Providence. As citizens of the United States we can with pleasure, and feelings of national pride, contemplate the growing prosperity of the country under the administration of the general government. Fortunate in its exterior relations, enjoying peace, and cultivating a friendly intercourse with the governments of other nations, we view with satisfaction the zeal with which it is also engaged in the prosecution of measures, wisely adopted to cement the union of the various members composing the confederacy, to promote the harmony of the people in the different states, and to afford security against the apprehension of any future dangers from foreign aggressions. Neither as citizens of Pennsylvania, have we any just cause to be discontented with our situation; on the contrary, the returning health of our citizens in those districts lately affected with disease; the satisfaction of the people in the enjoyment of their rights, and their peaceable acquiescence in the administration of laws emanating from their own will; the success attending their enterprize in prosecuting various branches of useful industry; and the abundant productions of the soil which for the last season, have exceeded the experience of any former period, are circumstances eminently calculated to distinguish the goodness of that Being from whose favor they flow, and to call on us for an expression of the profound gratitude we owe for his bounty.

Since the adjournment of the last Legislature the duties specially entrusted to the executive, have received due and punctual attention. The loans negociated with the Bank of Pennsylvania in the year 1818, have been renewed as they severally became due, agreeably to the provisions of the act of March last; and under the power vested in the Governor by that act, two loans have been obtained from the bank of Philadelphia each for fifty thousand dollars, dated respectively on the 2d of June and 10th of October, at an interest of five per cent per annum, and reimbursable in one year, these being the terms prescribed in the law, and in accordance with the provisions of the character of that institution.

The commissioners appointed by law for fixing a scite of the seat of justice in Perry county, were notified of a time and place of meeting, and a report signed by a majority of them, is filed in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth: copies of which will be delivered with this communication.—I have also directed you to be furnished with copies of such papers from the executive authority of other states, as appear to require any agency on the part of the legislator. The present state of the militia, the arsenals and the public arms, will be submitted in the annual report of the adjutant general, and the progress made in the construction of the Union canal, in the erection of the penitentiaries at Philadelphia and Pittsburg, and the improvement in the navigation of the rivers, will be exhibited in the reports, which the laws require to be made by the managers and commissioners of these several establishments.

The acts of those who have preceded us in the business of legislation, have left little remaining to complete our system of laws on general principles; but the constant and rapid increase of population; the continual mutation to which all human affairs are subject; and the daily accession of knowledge gained by experience render it necessary occasionally to review in detail, many of the acts that have been passed on general subjects, and conform their provisions to such alterations as a change of circumstances may have rendered necessary. Of the acts of this description. I would respectfully recommend to your attention a revision of those relating to the general elections; to those providing for the support and maintainance of the Poor, to the construction of artificial or turnpike roads; and to these I I might add the several acts comprising our present system of Education, but that subject has been so often submitted to the legislature in executive communications, and so specially pressed on their attention by the constitution, that it will naturally present itself to your view; and I should consider it an unjustifiable trespass on the time and patience of the enlightened assembly I now address, to ask their attention to any arguments in proof of the position, that to promote knowledge among the people, and inculcate virtue, the natural effect of information, is the proper and most efficient course for giving stability, and securing permanency, to our republican system of government.

A revision of the laws respecting the general elections appears to have become necessary for the purpose of ascertaining, whether, by their present provisions, every citizen entitled to vote, is fully protected in the free exercise of his elective franchise. It has been represented as a subject of complaint, that some persons possessing all other requisite qualifications have been deprived of their votes, by their names being, either accidentally or through design, omitted in the assessment of taxes. The duration of time necessary to constitute a residence to entitle a qualified elector to vote at any particular district, has been so much disputed, and so differently decided, at different times and places, that a legislative provision to settle the question would have a happy influence, not only in the relief it would afford to the judges of elections, but also in preventing the excitement of angry passions, intemperate debate, and unnecessary delay. And it would certainly be an important amendment, as it would essentially contribute to obtaining a fair expression of the public will, if a provision could be adopted, by which our fellow citizens might be secured against the deceptions of designing individuals to which they are exposed at elections in the exercise of their invaluable privilege of voting.

As connected with this subject, I would submit also the propriety of so amending an act, passed on the 24th of March, 1817, entitled, "An act to prevent wagering and betting on elections," as to render its provisions more competent to the object contemplated by its passage. Experience has proved that in its present form it is a dead letter. The practice of betting, instead of diminishing, appears to have increased. The design of the original law being, as stated in its preamble, to prevent immorality and corruption, every effort so to amend as to render it efficacious in producing that important end, will receive the approbation of all, who consider the purity of elections as essential to the preservation of our liberties and republican institutions

Most of the roads and bridges for which appropriations have been made by the state, are now reported to be completed, and the remainder expected to be finished in the course of the ensuing season. The large capital the state has invested in these establishments, requires the adoption of more efficient measures, than are now provided by Law, for keeping the roads in repair, and securing to government that portion of interest to which it is entitled by the amount of the subscription. A provision to secure these objects appears to be rendered peculiarly necessary by the consideration that some of the roads have been principally, if not exclusively, made by the money appropriated by the state.

Sympathy will naturally invite the attention of the legislature to that unfortunate class of people, who through misfortune, being unable to provide for themselves, are compelled by necessity to depend for support on public bounty. The experience now had, may on a general revision of the different acts on this subject, lead to some useful amendments: and for the purpose of obtaining information, as a foundation for further improvement, I would respectfully suggest the propriety of its being made the duty of the directors of the Almshouse in Philadelphia, and of the several Poor Houses in the state, annually to submit to the legislature a statement, exhibiting the number of paupers, and the average expense of their maintenance, in their respective institutions. If a similar statement could be obtained from the township overseers in those counties where there are no poor houses, it would be an important addition to the stock of knowledge necessary to the formation of a more perfect system. To aid your present deliberations on this interesting subject, I have directed you to be furnished with copies of communications from the directors of the several Poor Houses, in reply to sundry inquiries submitted to them for information in compliance with a request from a sister state.

The approaching election for President and Vice President will take place on the first Wednesday of December 1824, agreeably to the constitution of the United States and the acts of Congress; each state appointing, in such manner as the legislature thereof may direct a number of electors equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives to which the state may be entitled in Congress. By an act of the legislature of Pennsylvania, passed on the 2d of February, 1802 directing the manner, time, and place of holding elections for electors of President and Vice President of the United States, it is enacted, that every citizen qualified to vote for members of the General Assembly, shall vote for the whole number of electors; and by the third section of the act it is further enacted, that the electors, who shall be chosen as aforesaid, shall meet at the seat of government of the state, at twelve o'clock, on the day which is, or may be, directed by the Congress of the United States, and then and there perform the duties enjoined on them by the constitution and laws of the United States. Now it so happens, that the day appointed by Congress for the election of President and Vice President takes place at a time, when the legislature of this state is in session; and, as it is essential to the union and harmony of the states, and the liberties of the people, that the election of these high offices should be conducted in as pure and perfect a manner as possible, every vigilance and caution should be observed, not only to preserve its purity, but to avoid even the appearance of extrinsic influence, arising from executive or legislative interference, or from any other source. Governed by these impressions, I have thought it my duty to notice the subject at this time, and with the single view of suggesting the propriety of altering the existing law of this state, so far as respects the place of meeting of the electors, changing it from the seat of government to some other convenient place. No objection to the proposed alteration can arise, it is presumed, from a contingent necessity of filling up vacancies, should any occur. As the electors are a special body of representatives, chosen immediately by the people themselves, for the temporary and sole purpose of electing these officers, they will be fully competent to the task of performing the duty of filling vacancies, and be equally capable with the legislature, of representing and executing the views of their common constituents in relation to this matter.

Among the various topics of public importance recommended to the legislature, in former communications submitted to their consideration, there are several not yet acted on, and to which I would again respectfully invite your attention particularly an alteration of the militia system, so as to render it less inconvenient to individuals, and less burdensome to the public, by dispensing with one of the days of training, and diminishing the expense, to which in its present form it subjects the treasury;—the repeal or modification of the act imposing a duty on the retailers of foreign merchandise;—the enforcing a more prompt and strict accountability of all officers and agents entrusted with the receipt and expenditure of the public money;—the annual examination of the monied concerns of the treasury, and the more early promulgation of the laws.

Avoiding unnecessary expenses, regulating expenditures by the amount of income, creating no debts beyond a reasonable prospect of means to ensure payment, graduating salaries and fees according to the nature of the service to be performed; and guarding against such excess as might tend to excite an inordinate thirst for office, are important duties devolving on legislatures in the administration of the fiscal concerns of governments, more especially of republics. The reduction of salaries that took place during the session of 1820 and 1821, in conformity with these maxims of political economy, has furnished practical evidence of its utility, in the annual saving of several thousand dollars to aid the treasury in meeting its engagements; and the beneficial effects of the act regulating fees are still more sensibly felt by the people, in the relief it has afforded from the oppressive costs to which they had been exposed by the law, as it stood prior to the adoption of that measure.—It will rest with the legislature to decide whether, in any of the cases of costs or salaries, the public interest would be promoted by a still further retrenchment. So far as applications for office may be considered a safe criterion by which to judge of their emoluments, we have abundant evidence, that the standard at which they are now fixed, are not too low.

From the statement of the finances of the Commonwealth for the present year, furnished by the Auditor General, and his estimate of the probable receipts at the treasury and demands on the same for ordinary purposes during the ensuing year, copies of which are herewith transmitted it appears that the receipts after paying the ordinary expences of government, and the interest on loans during the present financial year, leaves a surplus of upwards of fifty thousand dollars; and agreeably to his estimate for the ensuing year, ending on the 30th of November 1824, the receipts will be sufficient to discharge the demands for like objects and leave a surplus of more than seventy thousand dollars.

It is universally admitted that public prosperity is essentially promoted by the improvement of roads and rivers. Whilst the application of national or state resources to these objects facilitates intercourse, and relieves the farmer and manufacturer from the burden of expensive transportation, it strengthens the ties of union and binds communities together, by the lasting cement of mutual interest. Pennsylvania has not been remiss in her attention to this subject. With a liberality highly honourable, her legislature has at different times, appropriated large sums of money in aid of turnpikes, bridges and other improvements. The whole sum thus appropriated from the year 1816, to the period when I entered upon the duties of the executive office amounted to $2,423,287, of which there was paid during the same period, 1,960,208 dollars, leaving a balance due on the 30th of November 1823, of 463,079 dollars.

To meet the appropriations made by the legislature at the time mentioned, recourse was had to loans, of which there remained also unpaid on the 30th of November 1820, the sum of 480,000 dollars, making the aggregate amount of debt at that period 943,079 dollars.

In prosecuting the system of improvement patronised by the legislature, the stock of several of the companies proved inadequate to the expense of completing the roads which they had commenced, and some of them had contracted large debts which they were unable to pay—As, therefore, in their unfinished state, roads and improvements were comparatively useless, and justice required that the labourer who had faithfully fulfilled his part of the contract, should be compensated for his services, it was deemed expedient to make additional appropriations; and for these and other improvements, considered by the legislature of sufficient importance to be provided for, 805,680 dollars were granted by an act passed on the 26th of March 1821, entitled "An act for the improvement of state."

The ordinary revenue being insufficient to meet the demands arising from the system of improvements which the representatives of the people thus thought proper to authorise, it became necessary to devise additional means; and as the policy of disposing of part of the bank stock or other stocks of the Commonwealth was doubted, the executive was directed to borrow one million of dollars, at an interest not exceeding five per cent. These facts shew that the state of Pennsylvania has not been unmindful of improvements. Whilst, however, as one of her citizens, I feel a becoming pride in the consciousness that she has not been tardy in the career of enterprize, it would be unjust to arrogate any merit to myself, or claim a share of the praise which is due to others. The system of improvement, now nearly completed, commenced with my predecessors. The first act by which roads and bridges received the sanction of the state, and the aid of its funds, was passed on the 17th March 1806. That act was followed up by others prior to my time; and although appropriations were made by the act of 1821, for improving the navigation of various creeks and rivers, as well as opening and improving roads other than turnpikes, yet nearly half the million loan was necessary to discharge debts contracted prior to the year 1820, leaving out of view the amount of loans obtained during the same period, which still remain unpaid.

Since the date of the law for the improvement of the state, passed in March, 1821, $256,289 have been granted by different acts of the legislature, for the use of various literary and benevolent institutions, and for the encouragement and promotion of sundry improvements, exclusive of 50,000 dollars granted by an act of the last session, for improving the navigation of the Susquehanna from the town of Columbia to the Maryland line, payable by instalments not exceeding 10,000 dollars in one year. And within the same period 228,709 dollars have been paid in discharge of these several grants, exclusive of 7000 dollars which the commissioners for clearing the Susquehanna have received at different times, on account of their first instalment, agreeably to the terms of the act under which they hold their appointments, and by which the appropriation was made.

These objects of improvement being now nearly all completed, and the appropriations paid as far as they have become due, the ordinary revenue, with a proper regard to economy, the credit of the state and its abundant resources and means judiciously applied, and prudently managed, with the aid of wise regulations and salutary laws, will, it is confidently expected, unless some unforeseen exigency occurs, be fully adequate to meet the public expenditures of the commonwealth, extinguish its existing debts within a reasonable period of time, and supercede the necessity of resorting to taxation, or imposing any new or additional burdens on the people.

And now gentlemen, you will permit me in the conclusion to bid you a last and affectionate farewell. In retiring from the station I at present occupy, I carry with me the consciousness of having discharged the various duties committed to my trust, with true devotion to the interest of my country, and according to the best of the abilities with which I have been endowed by Providence. Anxious for the maintenance of harmony and friendly intercourse with the other branches of government, it was matter of serious regret to me, that my judgment led to conclusions differing from those entertained by the legislature, relative to certain measures in which I was called to exercise the constitutional power, vested in the executive, of approving or returning with objections. Impressed, as I am with a sense of human fallibility, I will not pretend to say that my opinions, on these occasions, may not have been in errors but I can truly say, that they were the result of deliberate reflection, formed agreeably to what I conceived to be the true construction of the constitution, and the best interests of our constituents.

Having been for nearly fifty years occasionally engaged in various highly responsible stations in the service of my country, having witnessed its progress from colonial vassalage to independence and sovereignty, it is with the most sincere pleasure, that on quitting the theatre of public action, I can congratulate you, and our fellow citizens at large, on the propitious situation in which it is now placed. And I avail myself of the occasion it affords of repeating my fervent prayers to the Almighty Ruler of the Universe, under whose superintending influence it has attained its present eminence, that he may continue to cherish it with his fostering care, preserving its citizens in the free enjoyment of their just rights and republican institutions, until all earthly governments shall be terminated by the consummation of time.

JOSEPH HIESTER.

December 4, 1823.

About 9 o'clock, last Thursday evening, the stores of Mr. George M'Calmont, Mr. A. Halback and Mr. Hodges, in Dock street, were broken open before the watch was set, and sundry articles stolen therefrom. Some part of the goods was found by a person passing that way, and taken to the office of Alderman Binns. It has been ascertained that the remainder were taken into Southwark.

Capt. Dallas has been appointed to the command of the U. S. ship John Adams, about sailing from Norfolk, for Thompson's Island.

European Intelligence.

From late English papers.

Among numerous decrees issued by Ferdinand, since his arrival at Seville, are the following:—*For a funeral service to be performed in all the churches in the Kingdom,* " for the repose of the souls of those who have died since the 7th of March, 1820, in the support of God's cause and mine!" For the formation of a junta to select such books " which are proper to form men who may be worthy supports of the altar, the throne and the country!!"

By the last accounts from Paris, neither Mina or Rotten had surrendered.

The *Inquisition* is re-established in Spain, and the General of the Capuchins appointed Grand Inquisitor.

It would appear by the Morning Chronicle of the 30th of October, that Alexander is turning his attention to the affairs of South America. The Chronicle states, that the Emperor Alexander has recalled all his accredited agents from the Brazils, and an expedition is forthwith to be forwarded from Spain under the flag of that nation against the *Republic of Colombia*. This expedition is to consist of twelve thousand soldiers, nominally Spaniards, but fitted out at the expense of France, attended by French artillery, and engineer officers, and the necessary number of priests and licensed spies, who may by bribery, fraud, and fanaticism, prepare the way for tyranny. Some other papers in alluding to this subject, remark, that England will make a stand against any attack on South America by Russia.

The Duke of Belluno has refused the appointment as ambassador to the Court of Vienna.

The coronation of Pope Leo XII. took place on the 5th of October.

The King of Portugal has prohibited the entrance of all foreign newspapers into his kingdom.

The great council of Geneva, have passed a law, suspending the liberty of the press, for one year.

On the 9th of August, a fire broke out in the establishment belonging to the United Brethren, at Sarepta, by which three-fourths of the whole settlement was laid in ashes,

Accounts from Stockholm to the 10th of October, mention that Mr. Hughes, the American Charge d'Affaires, would set out in a few days for St. Petersburgh, on a mission to the Russian government.

The Banks of Bristol have followed the example of the Bank of England, and are discounting at four per cent

The gallant Riego had been tried and condemned to death. The accusation on which he was tried, was for having voted as a deputy of the Cortes for the deposition of the King, during his translation to Cadiz, and the nomination of a regency.

Many members of the late Cortes had arrived at Gibraltar on their way to England, and several were waiting an opportunity to depart for the United States.

One of the late London papers says:—We have authority to state, that the Wesleyan Methodists have no preachers of the names of Smith and Elliot employed by their Society at Demerara.

On the 27th of October, a duel was fought in a field near Turnham Green, England, between J. T. Esq. of New York, and H M. Esq. late of the King's German Legion. After three shots, the former was twice slightly wounded, and then an adjustment was effected. The dispute arose in consequence of some reflections against the courage of the American nation.

The 93d Highlanders, under the command of Sir Charles Gordon, were to embark immediately at Cork, for Demarara.

The ship *Meteor*, on board of which was the Right Rev. Bishop Hobart, of New-York, arrived at Liverpool on the 28th of October.

Sir Walter Scott's new novel is called " St. Ronan's Well."

There is at present exhibiting in the Argyle Rooms, London, an American aloe, in bloom, nearly 20 feet high. This extraordinary, beautiful and stupendous plant, flowers but *once* in *one hundred years!* and has at present 2,000 blossoms upon it.

From the Antigua Register of 31st October.

AWFUL SHIPWRECK.

Loss of the American Schr. Patriot.—The schr. Patriot, Captain Bunker, sailed from New York on the 19th September, having been chartered by Samuel L. Darrell Esq. for a voyage to this Island, with a cargo of corn, corn meal and staves. On the 28th in latitude about 37, she encountered a dreadful gale from the southward; the sea running tremendously high, broke frequently over the vessel, and the gale continued to increase, the balance mainsail, under which she was lying to, split and was in an instant blown from the belt rope, which obliged them to put her before the wind. At 4 P. M. the wind moderated, and suddenly shifted to the North West, blowing a perfect hurricane; in attempting to hoist the jib it was torn to shreds by the violence of the storm.—The vessel thus exposed between the two conflicting elements (the wind blowing from the North West, and the sea running from the southward,) became unmanageable, and was upset by a heavy sea before the masts could be cut away; she lay on her beam ends nearly an hour, when the mainmast fortunately gave way and she righted, completely water logged. It was then discovered that Stephen Joy, one of the seamen, was missing from the wreck, and shortly after, Francis Cutler another of the crew, was swept off by the sea. In this dreadful situation they remained till the second instant, exhausted by famine and fatigue, expecting every wave would whelm them in its yawning abyss—the horrows of night were rendered more awful by the roaring and flashing of the waters which broke around them and the day offering a spectacle at which, the stoutest heart must shudder—numerous large sharks instinctively drawn to the vessel, and apparently emboldened by the distress of the unfortunate men, seemed impatient at the delay which yet withheld from them their expected prey. On the last mentioned day the American Brig Spartan, captain Delano, which arrived here on Friday from Bath, was observed standing towards the wreck. Such was the effect of this sudden appearance of unlooked for succour on minds so lost in despair, that it was long before they could be persuaded of its reality. The Spartan having reached the Patriot, Capt. Delano took the men on board, and subsequently bestowed on them all the attention they required: and on being brought to this port, the Consul of the United States also rendered every kindness and assistance which the duties of his office, or the feelings of humanity, could dictate.

The schr. Diana from New York, a faster sailer than the Patriot sailed a few hours before her—We hope she may yet arrive safe; but apprehensions may be reasonably entertained.

MURDER OF MURRAY.

From conversation with the half brother of this unfortunate man, Mr. Bemis, (says the Boston Evening Gazette) we have learnt some additional particulars respecting him, which are not known to the public. Murray it appears, came to this country from Ireland, in 1801, at the age of 4 years, and since that time has lived and laboured in Massachusetts. He was an educated, but hard working young man, of guileless temper, and good habits. Within the last four years, he had been employed at the cast iron foundery of General Leach, at Easton, and by extreme economy, had laid by four hundred and seventy dollars. On a description of South America being read to him at his own request, he resolved to go thither, expressing however an anxious desire first to see a brother then absent at New Orleans. He left his occupation about three weeks since and departed for New York with the money, intending to embark from that port. Having the day previous visited Mr. Bemis' family, the master of which, had he been at home, thinks he should have deterred him from his purpose.

Evening Post.

PHILADELPHIA.

Saturday, December 6, 1823.

We trust no apology need be given for the omission of our usual advertising matter, and the Olio. We had several little articles prepared for this department, but publishing as we do today, both the President's and Governor's Messages, they were necessarily excluded. Our advertising friends may rely on being punctually attended to in our next.

We have given this day the President's Message entire. Our readers will, no doubt, peruse with pleasure this highly interesting document. It is a very satisfactory paper, and, notwithstanding its length, will repay an attentive perusal. The view it takes of the unexampled increase of our national prosperity since the era of the revolution, is extremely flattering; it developes in a forcible and conclusive manner, the blessings that may be realized from a government like ours, administered with moderation and honesty. It is an unquestionable evidence of the success with which a people may exist, though governed by themselves, when left to the operation of unshackled opinions and the influence of free, and enlightened systems of government. The view taken of our foreign relations is precisely what was to have been expected and desired. Our situation, in reference to the apparent policy of the European powers, is one at this time, of the highest importance, and is here considered in a spirit of independence, openness and firmness, that we sincerely hope to see met by a corresponding feeling on the part of our representatives. There is every reason to expect something will be done, during the ensuing session of Congress worthy of the station we occupy in the world. Our South American brethren are menaced with danger. The Greeks are struggling for their existence—they have claims on the sympathy of every nation with any pretensions to humanity; they have a double claim on the best feelings of a free and enlightened community—the blood of her murdered priests, the innocent blood of her females and children, the reeking ruins of their altars and their homes, all cry aloud for vengeance on her merciless oppressors; the voice of her sufferings has reached our shores, and they will not, they cannot be disregarded.

Considering the well known pacific principles of the Society of Friends, many of our readers were, no doubt, surprised at the intelligence contained in an article in our paper of the 22d ult. The exertions there spoken of as having been made by the members of this Society in England, on behalf of the Greeks, are not to be understood as applying to the warlike operations of that nation, but to the alleviation of the complicated sufferings which their families have been brought under, to succour their helpless and unoffending females and children from the horrors of famine, and the numerous ills which a ruinous warfare, waged by inhuman and merciless foes, has involved them and their unhappy country. The excesses committed at Scio, and elsewhere, by the Turks, are still fresh in the memory of every one; and we cannot but duly appreciate the feelings which prompt to an amelioration of sufferings too painful to relate, and which claim the sympathetic aid of every friend to afflicted humanity. We rejoice to find, this subject has already excited an operative attention in this country. A meeting has been held on this subject in New-York, which was addressed, among other speakers, by a gentleman who has lately returned from Greece. He represents their actual sufferings as far more distressing than have yet been described. A subscription has been opened at the Mutual Insurance Office in that city; an example we hope to see speedily followed by this and every city in the Union.

WASHINGTON.—An engraving on steel, from the original painting by Stewart, has been finished by Mr. G. Fairman of this city. It is said to be an excellent likeness and handsomely executed. Those who feel desirous of embellishing their dwellings with the likeness of Washington, have now an opportunity, and with little expence, and at the same time of encouraging an excellent and deserving native artist.

DECEMBER.—This month has come in with more mildness than was to have been expected from the early appearance which winter had assumed. The first few days were remarkably fine, and we hope the weather may continue moderate, for the sake of many, whose circumstances and situation would otherwise be much to be deplored. At present their prospects are favourable. Fuel is lower, we believe, than it has been for some years past at this period of the season. Good oak wood is selling as low as $4 75, and $5—and the supply of Coal in the market is greater than was ever known before. This valuable article can now be sold as low, and is found to answer so good a purpose, that it has got of late into very general use, and we have no doubt that, in a few years, it will constitute a principal article of consumption. It is gratifying to reflect, that the various sources from whence this portion of our fuel is derived, are capable of furnishing an abundant and inexhaustible supply, and that the means of transportation to our doors are becoming daily improved.

On Monday morning, the 17th ult. Samuel Harris, as chief engineer, accompanied by several gentlemen, and among them Mr. C. Miner, editor of the Village Record, proceeded from Downingtown, for the purpose of exploring the ground on the dividing lands between the Great Valley of Chester County and the Pequea Valley in Lancaster county. The only point that was supposed to present any considerable obstacle to the formation of the GREAT VALLEY CANAL. This examination has resulted in the highly important conclusion, that a Canal can be made from the Susquehanna through the Great Valley to Philadelphia.

John Rowlett will please excuse us, if we cannot coincide with him, that our attempt, last week, to correct some of his misrepresentations was "indecent," merely because we could do so at a "cheaper" rate than he could reply; for the columns he has filled in his imbecile efforts against the Book of *Commercial Tables* we lately printed, would imply that expense was no object to him. So far however, from injuring that work, we believe his labours have had rather a beneficial effect by bringing it more into the notice of judges, and rendering them willing to test its merits in the ingenuity and condensed form of its arrangement.

Mr. R. acknowledges his mistake in relation to the interest in the flat six times-odd-table of six errors *corrected with a pen*, and at the same moment inconsiderately makes another incorrect charge that the interest of 4000, 4100 and 4200 dollars for 10 days each, are corrections with a pen. This mis-statement includes his "six errors," and may be tested by inspecting the books.

We really do seriously think that there are printers (and neither extremely "needy or greedy" ones,) who would very cheerfully undertake the task of re-printing R. Williams's Commercial Tables; especially as *every* printer would have sense enough to see that they are as totally and specifically different from "Rowlett's Tables" as two works on the same subject can well be. This was the decision of Dr. Thornton, superintendant of the Patent Office, a considerable time past, and which decision was approved of by the Secretary of State. Mr. R. might say with the same justice, as he has said that Williams's Tables was a spurious infringement of his copy right, that having obtained a patent for making Hats, another man would infringe on his right by making a Coat, and all that were concerned in fabricating it were wicked and wished to ruin him, and must expect a judgment to follow their misconduct.

It might be supposed Mr. Rowlett conceived he had taken out a copy right for abuse, and that no one ought to correct him. We believe Mr. Williams has ceased to vindicate himself, and after this we are not unwilling that Mr R. should have the last word, if he will endeavour to keep to the truth.

Weekly Compendium.

A male child, apparently 24 hours old, was found dead on Thursday morning, under the steps of a store in Water street. It was wrapped up in rags, and two pieces of tarred rope yarn, were tied round its throat.

Horatio John Ball, was tried in this city, on Saturday last, for the murder of Benjamin Molineux, his school mate, aged 12, by stabbing him with a penknife. The verdict of the jury was "not guilty of murder, but guilty of manslaughter."

The North Carolina Star, printed at Elizabeth City, mentions that Mr. Benjamin Winslow, was killed in the woods on the 19th of Nov. by coming in contact with a spring trigger which was fixed for killing bears.

The North River, is closed with ice, opposite Albany, and for some miles below that city.

One ton and a half of specie passed through Utica, N. Y. last week for the westward, principally from Massachusetts.

The Minister Plenipotentiary, and the Consul General of the Colombian Government, are now at Washington.

The Mail robbers, Emmonheiser and Ward, were brought before the Circuit Court, at Baltimore, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment each.

Counterfeit notes, on the State Bank at Trenton, of the denomination of *Two Dollars*, have been put into circulation. The paper is better than that of the genuine notes and the name of *George Watson* is engraved.

The Hon. Mr. BROWN, a member of the Senate of the United States from *Louisiana*, will succeed Mr. GALLATIN as Minister to France.

Rees, the mail robber, has been sentenced to pay a fine of $100, and to be confined in the Kentucky Penitentiary for the term of seven years.

The Town Council of Harrisburg, Penn. have passed an ordinance expressly forbidding, "within the borough," all kinds of puppet shows, jugglery and slight of hand performances.

The Legislature of South Carolina, commenced its session on Monday the 24th ultimo—that of North Carolina on Monday the 17th ult. and Maryland on the 1st inst.

The Hon Heman Allen, Minister to Chili, with his lady, left the city of Baltimore on Monday morning, for Norfolk, in the steam-boat, to proceed immediately to the *Pacific* in the frigate United States, Commodore Hull.

Counterfeit Three Dollar Notes of the Patterson Bank, New Jersey, are in circulation, letter B, date 1st. April, 1818, favour G. P. Harper—they are tolerably well executed.

Capt. Wilson, of the brig Bee, arrived at New-York, who left Oporto Oct 4th, states, that the Constitutionalists had again assembled in large bodies, and it was expected they would succeed in gaining the ascendancy at that place. The accounts from Lisbon in the last London papers, allude to a conspiracy at Oporto. An Oporto paper of Sept. 30, quotes wheat at $2 25 per bushel—duty 90 cents.

Mexico.—Before Lieut. Gregory, of the U. S. schooner Grampus, left Tampico, he was informed by unquestionable authority that the law recently passed by the Mexican Congress requiring all European Spaniards to leave the country within a limited time, had been carried into effect—and that the enormous sum of $27,000,000 had already been raised by confiscated property belonging to them.

The Mail Stage coming from the Eastward, containing six passengers, (a lady and five gentlemen) was lately upset in Beverly, (Mass.) the carriage considerably broken, and all the passengers, with the driver, more or less bruised, but none seriously injured. The violence of the shock was so great, that the driver was thrown a considerable distance from his seat, and the heads of one or two of the passengers were forced through the top of the coach. The preservation of the persons in the Stage from greater injury, was truly providential.

Robbery.—On Saturday night last, an attempt was made to rob the *mail* stage between Schenectady and Albany, New-York. The robbers had cut the boot-straps, but the rattling of the chains with which the baggage was secured, alarmed the passengers, and the villains fled. Failing in their attempt on this stage, they next tried their skill on the new or opposition line, which was about half a mile in the rear, and succeeded in cutting from the boot, six trunks, containing clothing, and about $50 in money. The proprietors of the two lines, assisted by several friends went in pursuit of the thieves. After a long search, the trunks were found broken open, and a principal part of the clothing was found in the woods. A trunk, belonging to one of the passengers, which contained $7000, was placed in front of the stage, under the feet of the driver, by mere accident, as there was no room in the boot. Another passenger had money to the amount of 80,000 inside the stage.

Piracy.—Captain Hazard, of the schooner Alabama, arrived at New York, from Honduras, states that a short time previous to his sailing, a British sloop belonging to New Providence, had been captured by two piratical boats. The pilot of the sloop was killed. It was the intention of the pirates to have taken out the lady passengers, and to have burnt the vessel; but a heavy squall came on, which frustrated their design, and the sloop was enabled to get clear of the boats.

The Steam boat Hercules, recently built at Montreal, for the purpose of towing the shipping from Quebec to Montreal, is found to answer the purpose for which she was built. This boat was propelled up the most rapid part of the current with ease, where no vessel had ever been able to pass, without the aid of a strong wind. The engine is of 100 horse power and cost $18,000; it was made by Mr. Ward of Montreal.

Attack on the Vampire.—An occurrence of a serious nature, took place in New-York, on Monday last, at the corner of Oliver and Chatham-streets, where this great natural curiosity was deposited for exhibition. A boy, we understand, was in the act of attempting to indulge his curiosity, by looking through an aperture in the building, in order to have a view of the animal, when some person on the inside, interested in the establishment, inserted the blade of an open penknife, or some other sharp-pointed instrument, in the crevice through which the boy was looking, which perforated one of his eyes, and it is supposed will cause the entire loss of it. A number of persons were soon collected in consequence of the occurrence, who immediately proceeded to take vengeance on the Vampire and his keepers, by quickly demolishing the building in which he was enclosed and inflicting on him as much injury as they were capable of. The man who committed the outrage on the boy was taken into custody.

NEW ORLEANS.

Advices from New Orleans to the 8th November, are received at New York by the ship Florian. A letter dated the 1st ult. says:—"Strong suspicion is afloat of an intended insurrection of the Negroes. Having no military force at present to depend on, our vigilant patriotic citizens are performing patrol duty, particularly the gallant Louisiana Guards, with a zeal that reflects the highest honor on them, and which will undoubtedly baffle the intrigues and schemes of disorganizers. The past summer and autumn have been remarkably healthy, and notwithstanding the sickness in the surrounding country, New Orleans is a happy exception. Trade is gradually reviving. Cotton looking up, and numerous strangers adding animation to our city."

It appears by the New-Orleans papers that a committee had been appointed by the City Council there, to draught a memorial to Congress, requesting that a regular force of 200 men be stationed in that city.

New Orleans, Nov. 8—The continued hostilities which have been heretofore noticed between the Castle of St. Juan de Ulloa, and the town, have eventuated in the bombardment and destruction of a great portion of the city of Vera Cruz. This intelligence is received by Captain Padlett, of the schooner Orleans, 15 days from Tampico, who informs that the event occurred three or four days previous to his sailing. The garrison, we learn, had become exasperated in consequence of the effort made by the Mexicans to cut off the supplies of provisions, as well as the apparent preparations for attacking the fort—and were thence incited to this sudden attack and destruction of the city of Vera Cruz.

FALL OF PORTO CAVELLO.

The fast sailing schr. John, captain Driggs, arrived at New Castle, on Saturday last, in 15 days from Laguyra, informs that accounts reached there on the 11th inst. of the fall of Porto Cavello, on the 6th inst. A letter to Doctor Forsyth, from Carraccas, states that Porto Cavello was taken by assault, at one o'clock on the morning of the 6th—ALL WERE INDISCRIMINATELY PUT TO THE SWORD. Caisada and Carera fell in the estocado. There were but 60 men more remaining in the castle, who would surrender at six o'clock. The assault was led by General Paez and Bermudez.

DRAMATIC INTELLIGENCE.

The Circus closed on Monday evening last. The performers have principally left this city, for Savannah and Boston. Those for the former place are accompanied by Mr. Blythe, as manager. The company for Boston is under the direction of Mr. Cowell.

The Harrisburg theatre was opened on Tuesday evening last, with the comedy of the Soldier's Daughter, and Miss in her Teens. The company of comedians are the same who were performing at the Prune street theatre a short time since.

The engagement of Mr. Booth, at Boston, for six nights, commenced on Monday evening, the 24th inst. but was restricted in consequence of the arrival of Mrs Holman and Mr. Pearman. Mr. Booth has attempted a novel, but certainly not an impolitic method of contraverting the general current of opinion that his style of acting is a mere *fac simile*, if we may use the term, of Mr. Kean's. To prove that he acts from a natural conception of character, and not from imitation, he delivered a soliloquy from Richard III., first in his own manner, and afterwards in that of Kean—leaving the question as to the originality of his efforts to the decision of the audience.

Mr. Conway, a gentleman who held a high rank among the dramatic corps of the Covent Garden Theatre, London came passenger in the ship Columbia, at New York. During the interesting engagement of Miss O'Neill, Mr. C. was considered the hero of the stage, and was a great favourite.—The London Sun, Oct 21, says Mr. Conway's figure is the best that has been seen on the London boards since the time of Barry. He is a modest unaffected character and possesses considerable talents as an actor. Mrs. Siddons, during the time of her late estimable brother, spoke highly of Mr. Conway's performance of *Jaffier*, and in heroic character his person and talents qualify him to be a distinguished ornament of the stage. We hope that he will be successful in America, where, to the honour of the taste and liberality of the people, theatrical abilities have always found a general protection.

Mr. Mathews, who is now giving his *Trip to Paris* in Dublin, was called upon last Saturday evening to repeat the song—"*When a man travels he must not look queer*," but the encore was met by the cries of no! no! from another part of the audience. The contest was maintained for some few minutes. As soon as Mr. Mathews could obtain a hearing, he said, "Gentlemen, as some time has been taken up by the difference of opinion which this song has created, suppose I split the difference and sing the half of it." This proposition was met by the approbation of both parties, and Mr Mathews repeated the *half* of it, with a *double* share of applause.

Kean has, during his late visit to this kingdom' drawn houses in Cork, Waterford, Newry, Armagh, Londonderry, and Belfast, to the enormous amount of 4,000l. and upwards!—*Dublin Journal.*

TO MATHEMATICIANS,

Solutions to the Questions in the Evening Post, Nov. 22.

1.	Distance from A	15 . 78	
	Do. do.	B	14 . 91
	Do. do	C	10 . 03

2. As 24 hours : 1 minute :: 360° × 42.43 : 10.6075 miles per minute.

QUESTIONS FOR SOLUTION.

Q. 1. Given $x + y + xy = 75$ and $x^2 - y^2 = 315$ to find the values of x and y.

Q. 2. Three persons, A, B and C; A says to B and C, if you will give me half of your money, I shall have 100 dollars; but B says to A and C, if you will give me a third of what you have, I shall have $100; and C says to A and B, if you give me a fourth of what you have, I shall have 100 dollars. What was the sum owned by each one?

Marine Intelligence.

FOREIGN ARRIVALS.

Dec. 1. Brig Nymph, Moore, Havana 12, sugars, &c.; brig Ellen, Hall, Havana 13, sugars, &c.; schooner John, Driggs, Laguira 13; schr. Hugh G. Seymour, Campbell, Matanzas 15, molasses, sugar, &c.; (left brig Rolla, Ross, loading for this port,) schr. Harman, Havana 13.

Dec. 2. Ship Addison, Hewitt, Canton 170, teas, &c.; brig James Lawrence, Fisher, Gibraltar 40, wine, &c.; Spanish brig Os Amigos, Le Clair, Havana 15, in ballast; brig Caroline, Mullin, Havana 14, sugars; brig Mermaid, Painter, Nuevitas 14, sugars; brig Comet, Storer, Mobile 24, cotton; schr. Norris, Price, St. Jago 14, sugars.

Dec. 3. Brig Orient, Cole, St. Vincent 18, in ballast; brig Com. Porter, Shankland, Turks Island 14, salt; schr. Pomona, Stoneman, Aux Cayes 23, hides, wood, &c.; sloop Susan, Burlage, Antigua 17, fruit.

CLEARANCES.

Dec. 1. Brigs, Forrest, Howard, St. Thomas; Lawrence Shaw, St. Jago.

2d. Brig Richmond, Hardie, Madeira.

3d. Brigs Caroline, Jones, Havana; Juno, Norgrove, Havre; schrs. Abigail & [illegible], Johnson, St. Barts.

4th. Ship General Wade Hampton, Harrison, Charleston; brigs Matilda, M'Keown, Martinico; Margaret, [illegible], Matanzas; [illegible], Lawe, St. Kitts.

5th. Ship Orleans, [illegible], New-Orleans; Hannah & Elizabeth, Taylor, St. Thomas; William Gray, Stubbs, West Indies.

CONGRESS—Neither House set on the 4th inst. in consequence of the funeral of Mr. De Greuhm, the Prussian resident Minister to the United States.

MARRIED,

On Thursday evening, the 5th inst. by the Rev. Richard D. Hall, Mr M. BARNARD, to Miss MARGARETTA CARDWELL, all of this city.

On Monday morning, by the Rev. Mr. Bedell, Mr. HENRY P. LANDIS, to Miss CLARISSA H HARLAN, all of this city.

On Monday morning, by the Rev. Mr. Bedell, Major WILLIAM DAVENPORT, of the U. S. Army, to HANNAH daughter of the late Israel Israel, Esq. of this city.

On Wednesday evening, by the Right Rev Bishop White, Mr. JOSEPH P. WILLIAMSON, to Miss ABIGAIL, daughter of the late John Grover, Esq.

On Tuesday, the 27th ult. at Hamiltonville, by the Rev Joseph H Kennard, Mr WILSON BALDON, to Miss MARY SHEARER, both of Haddington, Philadelphia county.

On Thursday evening, the 4th instant, by the Right Rev. Bishop White, JOHN THOMPSON, Esq. merchant, of Shelbyville, Tennessee, to Miss MARGARET M NIXON, of this city.

On Saturday evening, by the Rev. Mr. Crusey, Mr. CHARLES LESHER, to Miss ELIZA, daughter of the late Mr. Philip Shaeff, all of this city.

On the 27th ult. at Milford, (Mass.) by the Rev. David Long, Mr CHARLES LELAND, merchant of this city, to Miss CHARLOTTE F. daughter of the late Col. Benj. Godfrey, of the former place.

On the 20th ult. at Friends' Meeting House, in East Sadsbury, Chester county, Pa. WILLIAM BRINTON, jun. of Lampeter, Lancaster county, to GULIELMA COOPER, daughter of James Cooper, of the former place.

DIED,

On Sunday, the 30th ult. Mr. JOHN ARMSTRONG.

On the 3d inst. CATHARINE ANN MAGDALENE, daughter of Charles Johnson, aged 18.

On Thursday morning, the 4th inst. Mrs. MARY CARBERY.

On the 12th ult. at Columbia, S. C. CHARLES L. CLINE, printer, formerly of this city.

On the 4th inst. at Frankford, ESTHER WEBSTER, relict of the late George Webster.

On Wednesday morning, the 3d inst. MARGARET BATEMAN, aged 29.

On the 1st inst. in Montgomery county, (Pa.) Mrs. MARGARET KREIDER, aged 27, daughter of the late John Schlatter, of the N. Liberties.

On the 10th ult. at Cuba, JOHN P. FLICK, aged 12, son of Mr. George Flick, of this city.

On the 1st inst. near Georgetown, D. C. Baron FREDERICK GREUHM, Minister from the Prussian government to the United States.

On the 12th inst. near Little-Ease, Gloucester county (N. J.) Mr CHARLES WEEKS and his wife — They departed this life within about three hours of each other, and were both interred in one grave!

Deaths during the past week.

	ADULTS.	CHILD.	TOTAL.
In Philadelphia,	58	45	103
In New-York,	26	26	52

There were 20 deaths in this city, last week, of the *Natural Small Pox!*

Letter Bags at the Coffee House.

Packet Ship Tuscarora, Serrill,	Liverpool, Dec. 20,
Dido, Bliss,	Liverpool and Belfast
Orleans, ——,	New-Orleans

THEATRE.

PERFORMANCE EVERY EVENING.

Prices of Admission—One dollar to the Boxes—Half a dollar to the Pit—Twenty-five cts. to the Gallery—Children under 10 years of age, half price, to the boxes and pit.

THIS EVENING, DEC. 6, 1823,

Will be presented the celebrated Tragedy of

VIRGINIUS;

OR, THE LIBERATION OF ROME.

Virginius, a Centurion, — Mr. Cooper

Appius Claudius, — Mr. Duff

Icilius, — Mr. Wallack

His first appearance this season.

Virginia, — Mrs. Anderson

After which, (first time this season) a favourite Melo Drama, called the

WARLOCK OF THE GLEN.

Andrew, a Scots' Fisherman — Mr. Wallack.

Adela, mother of Adelbert — Mrs. Battersby.

Mr. COOPER'S fourth appearance on Monday.

On Tuesday, the profits of the night will be given in aid of the funds of the Philadelphia Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb.

Notice is hereby Given,

THAT JOHN VANHORN of the township of Chester, in the county of Burlington, and state of New-Jersey, has this day made an assignment to the Subscriber, of all his Estate, real, personal and mixed, for the equal benefit of all his Creditors; who are hereby requested to exhibit their claims according to law.

ABRAHAM LIPPINCOTT

11 mo. 28th, 1823. dec. 6—4w

Chesapeake and Delaware Canal.

SOME Shares of the New Stock of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Company for Sale. A Note directed to S. C. and left at the Office of the Saturday Evening Post, will meet with attention. dec. 6—3t

CHEAP BOOKS.

BUTTERWORTH'S Concordance——Tappan's Lyrics——Hymns of the Feasts and Fasts of the Episcopal Church, &c. for sale at Half Price, for Cash. For further particulars enquire at the Office of the Evening Post. dec. 6—3t

UNION CANAL LOTTERY,

SEVENTH CLASS——NEW SERIES.

A. M'INTYRE, MANAGER.

SCHEME.

1	Prize of	10,000	Dollars is	10,000
2	—	3,000	—	5,000
3	—	2,603	—	5,138
6	—	1,000	—	6,000
10	—	500	—	5,000
20	—	100	—	3,000
30	—	50	—	1,040
78	—	25	—	1,940
429	—	12	—	4,148
4440	—	8	—	35,476

3051 Prizes — Dollars 70950

9138 Blanks.

Lucky numbers may be had at

GIBBS' OFFICE,

No. 4½ SOUTH THIRD STREET.

Orders (post paid) enclosing the cash, for a package, or for a single ticket or share, will meet with as prompt attention as a personal application. dec 6—tf

NEW THEATRE.

A FEW SEASON TICKETS may yet be obtained by applying to PRATT & DAVIS, No. 62, Chesnut st. between 2d & 3d streets. Dec 6—tf

BAKER'S

Exchange and Intelligence Office,

FRANKLIN COURT,

Market, between Third and Fourth Streets.

PROCURES Houses and parts, Boarders, Partners, Clerks, Housekeepers, Journeymen, Apprentices, Bound Children, Domestics, WET NURSES, &c.

FOR SALE, a *Black Girl*, 13 years old and 17 to serve—do. 11 and 7—do. 10 and 8—do. 16 and 4—do. 11 and 10, from the country—a *Black boy* 16 and 5—do. 17 & 14—do. 21 & 7.

TO BIND, a number of white and coloured Boys and Girls of different ages.

PROPERTY to *Sell* or *Let*, entered gratis.

Families provided with *Domestics*, with *good* recommendations. dec. 6—tf

"FREE AND EASY"

BURNS TAVERN, BANK-STREET.

"Care to our coffin adds a nail no doubt,

While merry laughter kindly draws one out."

THE Subscriber respectfully informs his Friends and the Public, that his *"Free and Easy"* is open every Saturday and Monday evening. He also with pleasure acquaints those visitors who have so kindly supported him for the two seasons, that he has improved his Great Room, and his Long Room is now decorated by the picturesque pencilling of Mr Samuel [illegible], viz. The superb *Grove Scene*, "[illegible] Beauty." He respectfully assures the Public that nothing on his part shall be wanting to render his guests comfortable.

To prevent intrusion from Boys, Gentlemen will receive Tickets at the Bar for 6 1-4 Cents, payable in Refreshments.

Relishes always ready—fine Whiskey Punch, &c. &c.

A select Band of Music. This evening Mr. F. [illegible] will give several Solos on the Kent Bugle.

nov. 22—tf WM. MUIRHEAD.

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

OF THE

UNITED STATES.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1823.

This being the day established by the Constitution for the meeting of the Eighteenth Congress, at an early hour a large majority of both Houses were assembled in their respective Chambers, where the following Proceedings took place

IN THE SENATE:

The Hon. Mr GAILLARD, President *pro tem.* took the chair, and called the Senate to order, at 12 o'clock

On calling over the roll, it appeared that there were 33 members present, who being duly qualified, took their seats.

The usual orders for the appointment of chaplains, for supplying the members with newspapers, and for the appointment of joint committees on enrolled bills, were severally passed.

Messrs. BARBOUR and MACON were appointed a committee, jointly, with such as the House may appoint, to wait upon the President of the United States, and inform him of the organization of the two Houses, and of their readiness to receive any communication from him: and then

The Senate adjourned to 11 o'clock to-morrow.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

At 12 o'clock, precisely, the Clerk called the House to order, and, the roll being read, and it ascertained that a quorum was present,

Mr. TAYLOR, of New York, rose and remarked, that, it having been publicly announced that he was considered a candidate for the Speaker's Chair, and several Representatives having avowed their intention to vote in his favor; for the purpose of correcting any mistake upon this subject which might exist either here or elsewhere, he thought proper to state that he was not a candidate, and that, if his friends consulted his wishes, they would not, on this occasion, support him for the office. This frank declaration, he said, appeared to be due to the House and to those gentlemen who were understood to be candidates, as well as to himself.

The house then proceeded, by ballot, to the election of a Speaker, and upon an examination of the ballots, it appeared that HENRY CLAY, one of the Representatives from the state of Kentucky, had 139 votes, and that PHILIP P. BARBOUR, one of the Representatives from the state of Virginia, had received 42 votes.

Mr. CLAY was, therefore, declared to be duly elected, and conducted to the Speaker's chair, from whence he made acknowledgments to the House in the following terms:

Gentlemen: I pray you to accept my most respectful thanks for the honor which you have just conferred on me. The station of Speaker of this House has been always justly considered as one of great respectability and dignity, as well as of high responsibility. But at the present period, when we are assembled under a new census, with our number considerably enlarged, and the highest interests of a greatly augmented population committed to our charge, it has acquired much additional importance, which requires from the favored object of your selection his most grateful acknowledgments, and the expression of the profoundest sensibility. The principles which should regulate the execution of the duties of the incumbent of the chair are not difficult to comprehend, although their application to particular instances is often extremely delicate and perplexing. They enjoin promptitude and impartiality in deciding the various questions of order, as they arise; firmness and dignity in his deportment towards the house; patience, good temper, and courtesy towards the individual members, and the best arrangement and distribution of the talent of the House in its numerous subdivisions, for the dispatch of the public business, and the fair exhibition of every subject presented for consideration. They especially require of him in those moments of agitation, from which no deliberative assembly is always entirely exempt, to remain cool and unshaken, amidst all the storms of debate, carefully guarding the preservation of the permanent laws and rules of the House, from being sacrificed to temporary passions, prejudices or interests. It is on such occasions as these, too, that the Chair stands most in need of your support, of your candor, of your liberality, of your unbiassed judgment. I am not so presumptuous, gentlemen, as to promise you that I shall perform the arduous duties, of which I have presented an imperfect sketch.—All I dare say, is, that I will exert an anxious, faithful, and unremitting endeavor to fulfil the expectations by which I have been so much honoured. And may we not indulge the hope, that, with the blessing of Divine Providence, all our deliberations and all our proceedings may tend to sustain the dignity of the House, to maintain the honor and character of the country, and to advance the public welfare and happiness.

The oath to support the Constitution of the United States, as prescribed by law, was then administered to the Speaker by Mr NEWTON, one of the Representatives from Virginia, and the same oath, (or affirmation,) was then administered by the Speaker to all the other members present.

After the house had been organized and some business of minor importance transacted a message was received from the Senate by Mr. CUTTS, their Secretary, informing the House that a quorum of the Senate had assembled, and was ready to proceed to business; and that they have concurred in the resolution for the appointment of a Joint Committee to wait on the President of the United States, &c.

And then the House adjourned.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

National Intelligencer, Extra,
Tuesday, December 2, 1823.

This day, at 12 o'clock, the PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES transmitted to both Houses of Congress, by the hands of his Private Secretary, the following

MESSAGE.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate
and House of Representatives:

Many important subjects will claim your attention during the present session, of which I shall endeavour to give, in aid of your deliberations, a just idea in this communication. I undertake this duty with diffidence, from the vast extent of the interests on which I have to treat, and of their great importance to every portion of our Union. I enter on it with zeal, from a thorough conviction that there never was a period, since the establishment of our revolution, when, regarding the condition of the civilized world, and its bearing on us, there was greater necessity for devotion in the public servants to their respective duties, or for virtue, patriotism, and union, in our constituents.

Meeting in you a new Congress, I deem it proper to present this view of public affairs in greater detail than might otherwise be necessary. I do it, however, with peculiar satisfaction, from a knowledge that, in this respect, I shall comply more fully with the sound principles of our government. The people being with us exclusively the sovereign, it is indispensable that full information be laid before them on all important subjects, to enable them to exercise that high power with complete effect. If kept in the dark, they must be incompetent to it. We are all liable to error, and those, who are engaged in the management of public affairs, are more subject to excitement, and to be led astray by their particular interests and passions, than the great body of our constituents, who, living at home, in the pursuit of their ordinary avocations, are calm but deeply interested spectators of events, and of the conduct of those who are parties to them. To the people, every department of the government, and every individual in each, are responsible; and the more full their information, the better they can judge of the wisdom of the policy pursued, and of the conduct of each in regard to it. From their dispassionate judgment, much aid may always be obtained, while their approbation will form the greatest incentive, and most gratifying reward, for virtuous actions, and the dread of their censure the best security against the abuse of their confidence. Their interests, in all vital questions, are the same; and the bond by sentiment, as well as by interest, will be proportionably strengthened as they are better informed of the real state of public affairs, especially in difficult conjunctures. It is by such knowledge that local prejudices and jealousies are surmounted, and that a national policy, extending its fostering care and protection to all the great interests of our union, is formed and steadily adhered to.

A precise knowledge of our relations with foreign powers, as respects our negotiations and transactions with each, is thought to be particularly necessary. Equally necessary is it, that we should form a just estimate of our resources, revenue, and progress in every kind of improvement connected with the national prosperity and public defence. It is by rendering justice to other nations, that we may expect it from them. It is by our ability to resent injuries, and redress wrongs, that we may avoid them.

The Commissioners under the fifth article of the treaty of Ghent, having disagreed in their opinions respecting that portion of the boundary between the territories of the United States and of Great Britain, the establishment of which had been submitted to them, have made their respective reports, in compliance with that article, that the same might be referred to the decision of a friendly power. It being manifest, however, that it would be difficult, if not impossible, for any power to perform that office, without great delay and much inconvenience to itself, a proposal has been made by this government, and acceded to by that of Great Britain, to endeavor to establish that boundary by amicable negotiation. It appearing, from long experience, that no satisfactory arrangement could be formed of the commercial intercourse between the United States and the British colonies in this hemisphere, by legislative acts, while each party pursued its own course, without agreement or concert with the other, a proposal has been made to the British government to regulate this commerce by treaty, as it has been to arrange, in like manner, the just claim of the citizens of the United States, inhabiting the states and territories, bordering on the lakes and rivers which empty into the St. Lawrence, to the navigation of that river to the ocean. For these and other objects of high importance to the interests of both parties, a negotiation has been opened with the British government, which, it is hoped, will have a satisfactory result.

The Commissioners, under the sixth and seventh articles of the treaty of Ghent, having successfully closed their labours in relation to the sixth, have proceeded to the discharge of those relating to the seventh. Their progress in the extensive survey, required for the performance of their duties, justifies the presumption that it will be completed in the ensuing year.

The negotiation which had been long depending with the French government on several important subjects, and particularly for a just indemnity for losses sustained in the late wars by the citizens of the United States, under unjustifiable seizures and confiscations of their property, has not, as yet, had the desired effect. As this claim rests on the same principle with others which have been admitted by the French government, it is not perceived on what just ground it can be rejected. A Minister will be immediately appointed to proceed to France, and resume the negotiation on this and other subjects which may arise between the two nations.

At the proposal of the Russian Imperial government, made through the Minister of the Emperor residing here, a full power and instructions have been transmitted to the Minister of the United States at St. Petersburg, to arrange, by amicable negotiation, the respective rights and interests of the two nations on the north-west coast of this continent. A similar proposal had been made by his Imperial Majesty to the government of Great Britain, which has likewise been acceded to. The government of the United States has been desirous, by this friendly proceeding, of manifesting the great value which they have invariably attached to the friendship of the Emperor, and their solicitude to cultivate the best understanding with his government. In the discussions to which this interest has given rise, and in the arrangements by which they may terminate, the occasion has been judged proper, for asserting, as a principle in which the rights and interests of the United States are involved, that the American continents, by the free and independent condition which they have assumed and maintain, are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European powers.

Since the close of the last session of Congress, the commissioners and arbitrators for ascertaining and determining the amount of indemnification which may be due to citizens of the United States under the decision of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia, in conformity to the convention concluded at St. Petersburg, on the twelfth of July, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, have assembled in this city, and organized themselves as a board for the performance of the duties assigned to them by that treaty. The commission constituted under the eleventh article of the treaty of the twenty-second of February, eighteen hundred and nineteen, between the United States and Spain, is also in session here; and, as the term of three years limited by the treaty, for the execution of the trust, will expire before the period of the next regular meeting of Congress, the attention of the Legislature will be drawn to the measures which may be necessary to accomplish the objects for which the commission was instituted.

In compliance with a Resolution of the House of Representatives, adopted at their last session, instructions have been given to all the Ministers of the United States, accredited to the powers of Europe and America, to propose the proscription of the African slave trade, by classing it under the denomination, and inflicting on its perpetrators the punishment of piracy. Should this proposal be acceded to, it is not doubted, that this odious and criminal practice will be promptly and entirely suppressed. It is earnestly hoped that it will be acceded to, from the firm belief that it is the most effectual expedient that can be adopted for the purpose.

At the commencement of the recent war between France and Spain, it was declared by the French government, that it would grant no commissions to privateers, and that neither the commerce of Spain herself, nor of neutral nations, should be molested by the naval force of France, except in the breach of a lawful blockade. This declaration, which appears to have been faithfully carried into effect, concurring with principles proclaimed and cherished by the United States, from the first establishment of their independence, suggested by the hope that the time had arrived when the proposal for adopting it as a permanent and invariable rule, in all future maritime wars, might meet the most favorable consideration of the great European powers. Instructions have accordingly been given to our ministers with France, Russia, and Great-Britain, to make those proposals to their respective governments; and, when the friends of humanity reflect on the essential amelioration to the condition of the human race which would result from the abolition of private war on the sea, and on the great facility by which it might be accomplished, requiring only the consent of a few sovereigns, an earnest hope is indulged that these overtures will meet with an attention animated by the spirit in which they were made, and that they will ultimately be successful.

The Ministers who were appointed to the republics of Colombia and Buenos Ayres, during the last session of Congress, proceeded shortly afterwards to their destinations. Of their arrival there, official intelligence has not yet been received. The Minister appointed to the Republic of Chili will sail in a few days. An early appointment will also be made to Mexico. A Minister has been received from Colombia, and the other governments have been informed that Ministers or Diplomatic Agents of inferior grade, would be received from each, accordingly as they might prefer the one or the other.

The Minister appointed to Spain proceeded, soon after his appointment, for Cadiz, the residence of the sovereign, to whom he was accredited. In approaching that port, the frigate which conveyed him was warned off by the commander of the French squadron, by which it was blockaded, and not permitted to enter, although apprised, by the captain of the frigate, of the public character of the person whom he had on board, the landing of whom was the sole object of his proposed entry.—This act, being considered an infringement of the rights of ambassadors, and of nations, will form a just cause of complaint, to the government of France, against the officer by whom it was committed.

The actual condition of the public finances more than realizes the favorable anticipations that were entertained of it at the opening of the last session of Congress. On the first of January there was a balance in the Treasury of four million two hundred and thirty-seven thousand four hundred and twenty-seven dollars and fifty-five cents. From that time to the thirtieth September, the receipts amounted to upwards of sixteen millions one hundred thousand dollars, and the expenditures to eleven millions four hundred thousand dollars. During the fourth quarter of the year, it is estimated, that the receipts will, at least, equal the expenditures, and that there will remain in the Treasury on the first day of January next a surplus of nearly nine millions of dollars.

On the first day of January, eighteen hundred and twenty-five, a large amount of the war debt, and a part of the revolutionary debt, become redeemable. Additional portions of the former will continue to become redeemable, annually, until the year eighteen hundred and thirty-five. It is believed, however, that, if the United States remain at peace, the whole of that debt may be redeemed, by the ordinary revenue of those years during that period, under the provision of the act of March third, eighteen hundred and seventeen, creating the sinking fund, and, in that case, the only part of the debt that will remain, after the year eighteen hundred and thirty-five, will be the seven millions of five per cent. stock subscribed to the Bank of the United States, and the three per cent. revolutionary debt, amounting to thirteen millions two hundred and ninety-six thousand and ninety-nine dollars and six cents, both of which are redeemable at the pleasure of the government.

The state of the army in its organization and discipline, has been gradually improving for several years, and has now attained a high degree of perfection. The Military disbursements have been regularly made, and the accounts regularly and promptly rendered for settlement. The supplies, of various descriptions, have been of good quality, and regularly issued at all of the posts. A system of economy and accountability has been introduced into every branch of the service, which admits of little additional improvement. This desirable state has been attained by the act reorganizing the staff of the army, passed on the fourteenth of April eighteen hundred and eighteen.

The moneys appropriated for fortifications have been regularly and economically applied, and all the works advanced as rapidly as the amount appropriated would admit. Three important works will be completed in the course of this year; that is, Fort Washington, Fort Delaware, and the Fort at the Rigolets, in Louisiana.

The Board of Engineers, and the Topographical Corps, have been in constant and active service, in surveying the Coast, and projecting the works necessary for its defence.

The Military Academy has attained a degree of perfection in its discipline and instruction, equal, as is believed, to any institution of its kind in any country.

The money appropriated for the use of the Ordinance Department, has been regularly and economically applied. The fabrication of arms at the national armories, and by contract with the Department, has been gradual, improving in quality and cheapness. It is believed that their quality is now such as to admit of but little improvement.

The completion of the Fortifications renders it necessary that there should be a suitable appropriation for the purpose of fabricating the cannon and carriages necessary for those works.

Under the appropriation of five thousand dollars for exploring the western waters for the location of a site for a Western Armory, a commission was constituted, consisting of colonel M'Ree, colonel Lee, and captain Talcott, who have been engaged in exploring the country. They have not yet reported the result of their labours, but it is believed that they will be prepared to do it, at an early part of the Session of Congress.

During the month of June last, General Ashley and his party, who were trading under a license from the government, were attacked by the Ricarees while peaceably trading with the Indians, at their request. Several of the party were killed and wounded and their property taken or destroyed.

Colonel Leavenworth, who commanded Fort Atkinson, at the Council Bluffs, the most western post, apprehending that the hostile spirit of the Riccarees would extend to other tribes in that quarter, and that thereby the lives of the traders on the Missouri, and the peace of the frontier, would be endangered, took immediate measures to check the evil.

With a detachment of the regiment stationed at the Bluffs, he successfully attacked the Ricaree village, and it is hoped that such an impression has been made on them, as well as on the other tribes on the Missouri, as will prevent a recurrence of future hostility.

The report of the Secretary of War, which is herewith transmitted, will exhibit, in greater detail, the condition of the Department in its various branches, and the progress which has been made in its administration, during the three first quarters of the year.

I transmit a return of the militia of the several states, according to the last reports which have been made, by the proper officers in each, to the Department of War. By reference to this return, it will be seen that it is not complete, although great exertions have been made to make it so. As the defence, and even the liberties of the country must depend, in times of imminent danger, on the militia, it is of the highest importance that it be well organized, armed, and disciplined throughout the Union. The report of the Secretary of War shows the progress made during the three first quarters of the present year, by the application of the fund appropriated for arming the militia. Much difficulty is found in distributing the arms according to the act of Congress providing for it, from the failure of the proper Departments in many of the states to make regular returns. The act of May the twelfth, one thousand eight hundred and twenty, provides that the system of tactics and regulations of the various corps of the regular army shall be extended to the militia. This act has been very imperfectly executed, from the want of uniformity in the organization of the militia, proceeding from the defects of the system itself, and especially in its application to that main arm of the public defence. It is thought that this important subject, in all its branches, merits the attention of Congress.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy, which is now communicated, furnishes an account of the administration of that Department, for the first three quarters of the present year, with the progress made in augmenting the Navy, and the manner in which the vessels in commission have been employed.

The usual force has been maintained in the Mediterranean Sea, the Pacific Ocean, and along the Atlantic Coast, and has afforded the necessary protection to our commerce in those seas.

In the West Indies and the Gulph of Mexico, our naval force has been augmented, by the addition of several small vessels, provided for by the "act authorising an additional naval force for the suppression of piracy," passed by Congress at their last session. That armament has been eminently successful in the accomplishment of its object. The piracies, by which our commerce in the neighborhood of the Island of Cuba had been afflicted, have been repressed, and the confidence of our merchants in a great measure restored.

The patriotic zeal and enterprise of Commodore Porter, to whom the command of the expedition was confided, has been fully seconded by the officers and men, under his command. And, in reflecting, with high satisfaction, on the honorable manner in which they have sustained the reputation of their country and its navy, the sentiment is alloyed only by a concern, that, in the fulfilment of that arduous service, the diseases incident to the season, and to the climate in which it was discharged, have deprived the nation of many useful lives, and among them of several officers of great promise.

In the month of August a very malignant fever made its appearance at Thompson's Island, which threatened the destruction of our station there. Many perished; and the commanding officer was severely attacked. Uncertain as to his fate, and knowing that most of the medical officers had been rendered incapable of discharging their duties, it was thought expedient to send to that post an officer of rank and experience, with several skilful surgeons to ascertain the origin of the fever and the probability of its recurrence there in future seasons; to furnish every assistance to those who were suffering, and, if practicable, to avoid the necessity of abandoning so important a station.—Commodore Rodgers, with a promptitude which did him honor, cheerfully accepted that trust, and has discharged it in the manner anticipated from his skill and patriotism. Before his arrival, Commodore Porter, with the greater part of the squadron, had removed from the Island, and returned to the United States in consequence of the prevailing sickness. Much useful information has however been obtained, as to the state of the Island, and great relief afforded to those who had been necessarily left there.

Although our expedition, co-operating with an invigorated administration of the government of the Island of Cuba, and with the corresponding active exertions of a British naval force in the same seas, have almost entirely destroyed the unlicensed piracies from that Island, the success of our exertions has not been equally effectual to suppress the same crime, under other pretences and colors, in the neighboring island of Porto Rico. They have been committed there under the abusive issue of Spanish commissions. At an early period of the present year, remonstrances were made to the Governor of that island, by an agent who was sent for the purpose, against those outrages on the peaceful commerce of the United States, of which many had occurred. That officer, professing his own want of authority to make satisfaction for our just complaints, answered only by a reference of them to the government of Spain. The minister of the United States to that court was specially instructed to urge the necessity of the immediate and effectual interposition of that government, directing restitution and indemnity for wrongs already committed, and interdicting the repetition of them. The minister, as has been seen, was debarred access to the Spanish government, and, in the mean time, several new cases of flagrant outrage have occurred, and citizens of the United States in the island of Porto Rico have suffered, and others have been threatened with, assassination, for asserting their unquestionable rights, even before the lawful tribunals of the country.

The usual orders have been given to all our public ships, to seize American vessels engaged in the Slave trade, and bring them in for adjudication; and I have the gratification to state, that not one so employed has been discovered; and there is good reason to believe that our flag is now seldom, if at all, disgraced by that traffic.

It is a source of great satisfaction, that we are always enabled to recur to the conduct of our Navy with pride and commendation. As a means of national defence, it enjoys the public confidence, and is steadily assuming additional importance. It is submitted whether a more efficient and equally economical organization of it, might not, in several respects, be effected. It is supposed that higher grades than now exist by law would be useful. They would afford well merited rewards to those who have long and faithfully served their country, present the best incentives to good conduct, and the best means of insuring a proper discipline; destroy the inequality in that respect between military and naval services, and relieve our officers from many inconveniences and mortifications, which occur when our vessels meet those of other nations—ours being the only service in which such grades do not exist.

A report of the Post Master General, which accompanies this communication, will show the present state of the Post Office Department, and its general operations for some years past.

There is established, by law, eighty-eight thousand six hundred miles of post roads, on which the mail is now transported eighty-five thousand seven hundred miles, and contracts have been made for its transportation on all the established routes, with one or two exceptions. There are five thousand two hundred and forty post offices in the Union, and as many post masters. The gross amount of postage which accrued from the first of July, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, to the first of July, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, was one million one hundred and fourteen thousand three hundred and forty-five dollars, twelve cents. During the same period, the expenditures of the Post Office Department amounted to one million one hundred and sixty-nine thousand eight hundred and eighty-five dollars and fifty-one cents; and consisted of the following items: Compensation to postmaster, three hundred and fifty-three thousand nine hundred and ninety-five dollars and ninety-eight cents; incidental expenses, thirty thousand eight hundred and sixty six dollars and thirty-seven cents; transportation of the mail, seven hundred and eighty-four thousand six hundred dollars and eight cents; payments into the Treasury, four hundred and twenty-three dollars and eight cents. On the first of July last, there was due to the Department, from Postmasters, one hundred and thirty-five thousand two hundred and forty-five dollars and twenty eight cents; from late postmasters and contractors, two hundred and fifty-six thousand seven hundred and forty-nine dollars and thirty-one cents; making a total amount of balances due to the Department, of three hundred and ninety-one thousand nine hundred and ninety-four dollars and fifty-nine cents; these balances embrace all delinquencies of postmasters and contractors, which have taken place since the organization of the Department. There was due by the Department, to contractors, on the first of July last twenty-six thousand five hundred and forty-eight dollars and sixty-four cents.

The transportation of the mail, within five years past, has been greatly extended, and the expenditures of the department proportionably increased. Although the postage, which has accrued within the last three years, has fallen short of the expenditures two hundred and sixty-two thousand eight hundred and twenty-one dollars and forty six cents, it appears that collections have been made from the outstanding balances to meet the principal part of the current demands.

It is estimated that not more than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars of the above balances can be collected, and that a considerable part of this sum can only be realised by a resort to legal process. Some improvement in the receipts for postage is expected. A prompt attention to the collection of moneys received by post-masters, it is believed will enable the department to continue its operations without aid from the Treasury, unless the expenditure shall be increased by the establishment of new mail routes.

A revision of some parts of the post-office law may be necessary; and it is submitted, whether it would not be proper to provide for the appointment of post masters, where the compensation exceeds a certain amount, by nomination to the Senate, as other officers of the general government are appointed.

Having communicated my views to Congress, at the commencement of the last session, respecting the encouragement which ought to be given to our manufactures, and the principle on which it should be founded, I have only to add that those views remain unchanged, and that the present state of those countries, with which we have the most immediate political relations and greatest commercial intercourse, tends to confirm them. Under this impression, I recommend a review of the tariff, for the purpose of affording such additional protection to those articles which we are prepared to manufacture, or which are more immediately connected with the defence and independence of the country.

The actual state of the public accounts furnishes additional evidence of the efficiency of the present system of accountability, in relation to the public expenditure. Of the monies drawn from the Treasury since the 4th of March, 1817, the sum remaining unaccounted for on the 30th of Sept. last, is more than a million and a half of dollars less than on the 30th of September preceding; and, during the same period, a reduction of nearly a million of dollars has been made in the amount of the unsettled accounts for monies advanced previously to the 4th of March, 1817. It will be obvious that, in proportion as the mass of accounts of the latter description is diminished, by settlement, the difficulty of settling the residue is increased, from the consideration that, in many instances, it can be obtained only by legal process. For more precise details on this subject, I refer to a report from the First Comptroller of the Treasury.

The sum which was appropriated at the last session, for the repairs of the Cumberland road, has been applied with good effect to that object. A final report has not yet been received from the agent who was appointed to superintend it. As soon as it is received, it shall be communicated to Congress.

Many patriotic and enlightened citizens, who have made the subject an object of particular investigation, have suggested an improvement of still greater importance. They are of opinion that the waters of the Chesapeake and Ohio may be connected together by one continued canal, and at an expense far short of the value and importance of the object to be obtained. If this could be accomplished, it is impossible to calculate the beneficial consequences which would result from it. A great portion of the produce of the very fertile country through which it would pass, would find a market through that channel. Troops might be moved with great facility in war, with cannon, and every kind of munition, and in either direction. Connecting the Atlantic with the western country, in a line passing through the seat of the national government, it would contribute essentially to strengthen the bond of Union itself. Believing as I do, that Congress possess the right to appropriate money for such a national object, (the jurisdiction remaining to the states through which the canal would pass,) I submit it to your consideration whether it may not be advisable to authorize, by an adequate appropriation, the employment of a suitable number of the officers of the corps of engineers, to examine the unexplored ground, during the next season, and to report their opinion thereon. It will likewise be proper to extend their examination to the several routes through which the waters of the Ohio may be connected, by canals, with those of Lake Erie.

As the Cumberland road will require annual repairs, and Congress have not thought it expedient to recommend to the states an amendment to the constitution, for the purpose of vesting in the United States a power to adopt and execute a system of internal improvement, it is also submitted to your consideration, whether it may not be expedient to authorise the Executive to enter into an arrangement with the several states through which the road passes, to establish tolls, each within its limits, for the purpose of defraying the expense of future repairs, and of providing, also, by suitable penalties, for its protection against future injuries.

The act of Congress of the seventh of May, one thousand eight hundred and twenty two, appropriated the sum of twenty two thousand seven hundred dollars for the purpose of erecting two piers as a shelter for vessels from ice, near Cape Henlopen, Delaware Bay. To effect the object of the act, the officers of the board of Engineers, with Commodore Bainbridge, were directed to prepare plans and estimates of piers sufficient to answer the purpose intended by the act. It appears by their report which accompanies the documents from the War Department, that the appropriation is not adequate to the purpose intended; and, as the piers would be of great service, both to the navigation of the Delaware Bay, and the protection of vessels on the adjacent parts of the coast, I submit for the consideration of Congress whether additional and sufficient appropriations should not be made.

The board of Engineers were also directed to examine and survey the entrance of the harbour of the port of Presqu'isle in Pennsylvania, in order to make an estimate of the expence of removing the obstructions to the entrance, with a plan of the best mode of effecting the same under the appropriation for that purpose, by act of Congress passed third of March last.—The report of the Board accompanies the papers from the War Department, and is submitted for the consideration of Congress.

A strong hope has been long entertained, founded on the heroic struggle of the Greeks, that they would succeed in their contest, and resume their equal station among the nations of the earth. It is believed that the whole civilized world takes a deep interest in their welfare. Although no power has declared in their favour, yet none, according to our information, has taken part against them. Their cause and their name have protected them from dangers, which might ere this have overwhelmed any other people. The ordinary calculations of interest, and of acquisitions with a view to aggrandizement which mingle so much in the transactions of nations, seem to have had no effect in regard to them. From the facts which have come to our knowledge, there is good cause to believe that their enemy has lost forever all dominion over them; that Greece will become again an independent nation. That she may obtain that rank is the object of our most ardent wishes.

It was stated at the commencement of the last session, that a great effort was then making in Spain and Portugal to improve the condition of the people of those countries; and that it appeared to be conducted with extraordinary moderation. It need scarcely be remarked, that the result has been, so far, very different from what was then anticipated. Of events in that quarter of the globe with which we have so much intercourse, and from which we derive our origin, we have always been anxious and interested spectators. The citizens of the United States cherish sentiments the most friendly, in favour of the liberty and happiness of their fellow men on that side of the Atlantic. In the wars of the European powers, in matters relating to themselves, we have never taken any part, nor does it comport with our policy so to do. It is only when our rights are invaded, or seriously menaced, that we resent injuries, or make preparation for our defence. With the movements in this hemisphere, we are, of necessity, more immediately connected, and by causes which must be obvious to all enlightened and impartial observers. The political system of the allied powers is essentially different in this respect, from that of America. This difference proceeds from that which exists in their respective governments. And to the defence of our own, which has been achieved by the loss of so much blood and treasure, and matured by the wisdom of their most enlightened citizens, and under which we have enjoyed unexampled felicity, this whole nation is devoted. We owe it therefore to candour, and to the amicable relations existing between the United States and those powers, to declare, that we should consider any attempt, on their part, to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere, as dangerous to our peace and safety.

With the existing colonies or dependencies of any European power, we have not interfered, and shall not interfere. But with the governments who have declared their independence, and maintained it, and whose independence we have, on great consideration and on just principles, acknowledged, we could not view any interposition for the purpose of oppressing them, or controlling, in any other manner, their destiny, by any European power, in any other light than as the manifestation of an unfriendly disposition towards the United States. In the war between those new governments and Spain, we declared our neutrality at the time of their recognition, and to this we have adhered, and shall continue to adhere, provided no change shall occur, which, in the judgment of the competent authorities of this government, shall make a corresponding change on the part of the United States indispensable to their security.

The late events in Spain and Portugal shew that Europe is still unsettled. Of this important fact, no stronger proof can be adduced, than that the allied powers should have thought it proper, on any principles satisfactory to themselves, to have interposed, by force, in the internal concerns of Spain. To what extent such interposition may be carried, on the same principle, is a question in which all independent powers, whose governments differ from theirs, are interested; even those most remote, and surely none more so than the United States. Our policy in regard to Europe, which was adopted at an early stage of the wars which have so long agitated that quarter of the globe, nevertheless remains the same, which is, not to interfere in the internal concerns of any of its powers; to consider the government *de facto* as a legitimate government for us; to cultivate friendly relations with it, and to preserve those relations by a frank, firm and manly policy, meeting in all instances the just claims of every power; submitting to injuries from none. But in regard to these continents, circumstances are eminently and conspicuously different. It is impossible that the allied powers should extend their political system, to any portion of either continent without endangering our peace and happiness; nor can any one believe that our southern brethren, if left to themselves, would adopt it of their own accord. It is equally impossible, therefore, that we should behold such interposition, in any form, with indifference. If we look to the comparative strength and resources of Spain and those new governments, and their distance from each other, it must be obvious that she can never subdue them. It is still the true policy of the United States to leave the parties to themselves, in the hope that other powers will pursue the same course.

If we compare the present condition of our Union, with its actual state at the close of our revolution, the history of the world furnishes no example of a progress in improvement, in all the important circumstances which constitute the happiness of a nation, which bears any resemblance to it. At the first epoch our population did not exceed three millions. By the last census it amounted to about ten millions, and, what is more extraordinary, it is almost altogether native, for the emigration from other countries has been inconsiderable. At the first epoch, half the territory within our acknowledged limits was uninhabited and a wilderness. Since then, new territory has been acquired, of vast extent, comprising within it many rivers, particularly the Mississippi, the navigation of which to the ocean was of the highest importance to the original states. Over this territory our population has expanded in every direction, and new states have been established, almost equal, in number, to those which formed the first bond of our Union. This expansion of our population, and accession of new States to our Union, have had the happiest effect on all its highest interests. That it has eminently augmented our resources and added to our strength and respectability, as a power, is admitted by all. But, it is not in these important circumstances only, that this happy effect is felt. It is manifest that, by enlarging the basis of our system, and increasing the number of states, the system itself has been greatly strengthened in both its branches. Consolidation and disunion have thereby been rendered equally impracticable. Each government, confiding in its own strength, has less to apprehend from the other; and in consequence each enjoying a greater freedom of action, is rendered more efficient for all the purposes for which it was instituted. It is unnecessary to treat, here, of the vast improvement made in the system itself, by the adoption of this constitution, and of its happy effect in elevating the character, and in protecting the rights of the nation, as well as of individuals. To what then do we owe these blessings? It is known to all, that we derive them from the excellence of our institutions. Ought we not then to adopt every measure, which may be necessary to perpetuate them?

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, December 2, 1823.